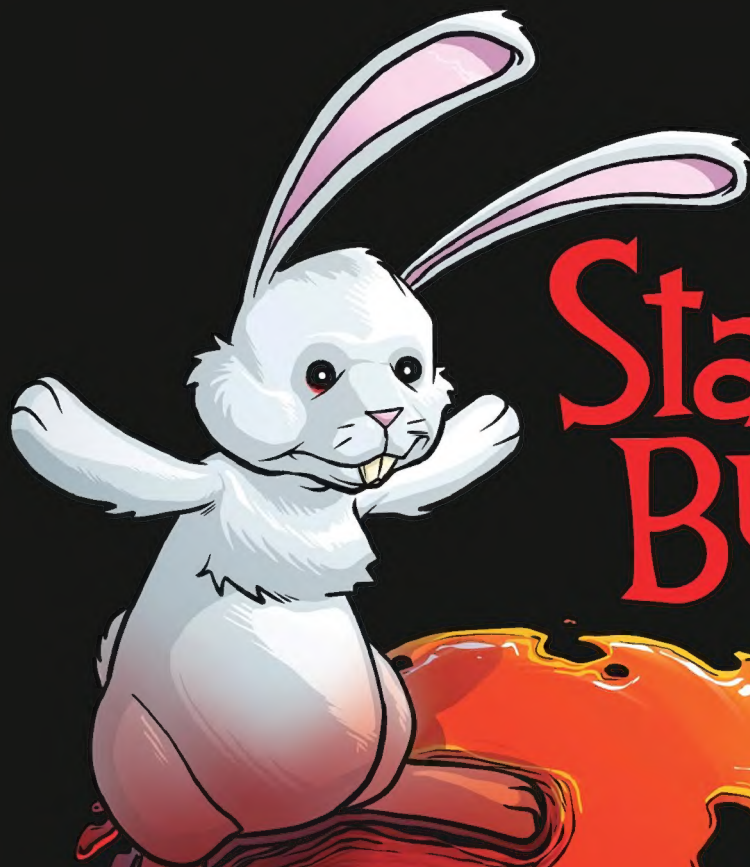




Stabbity Bunny

VOLUME
1

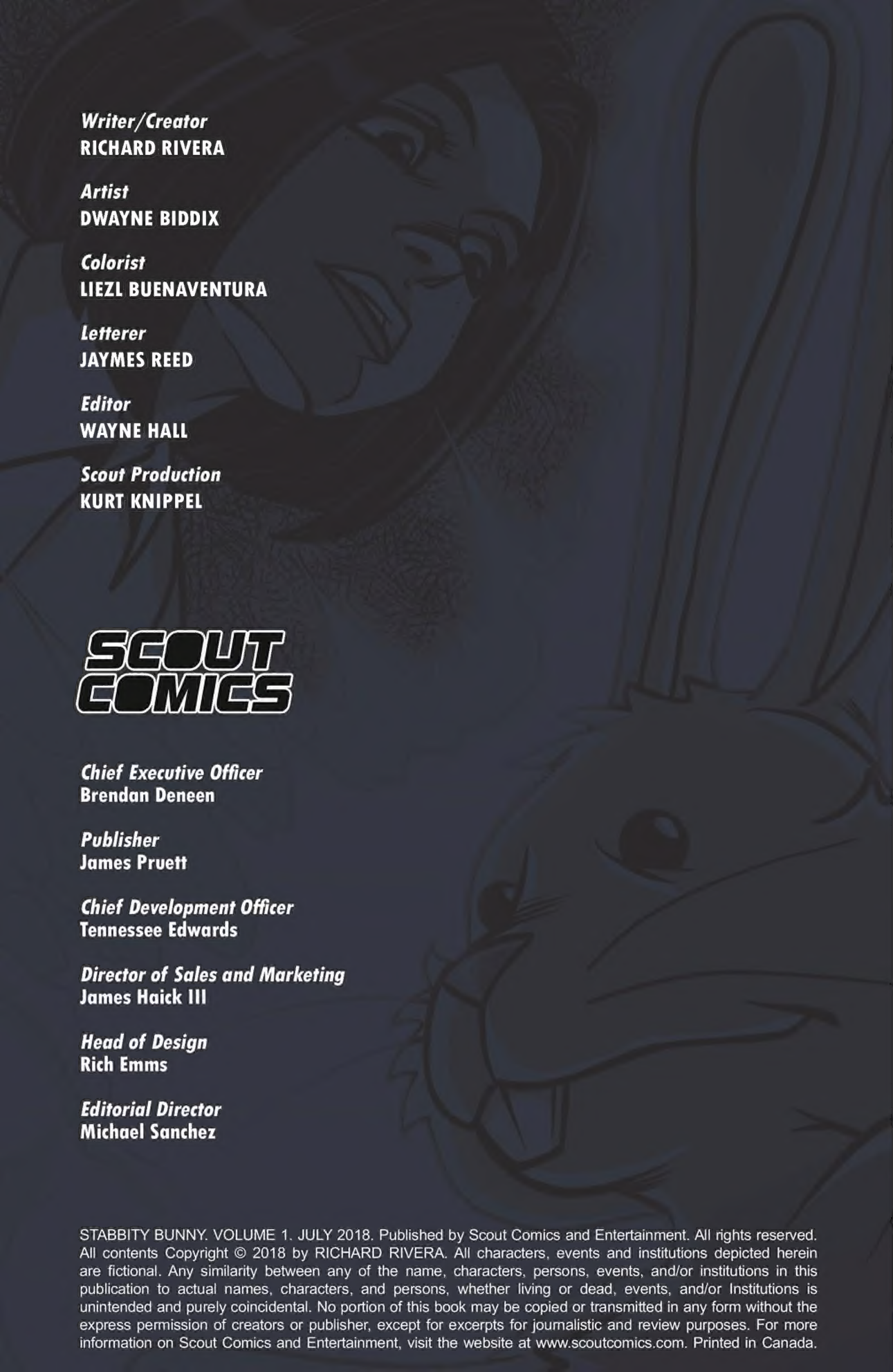
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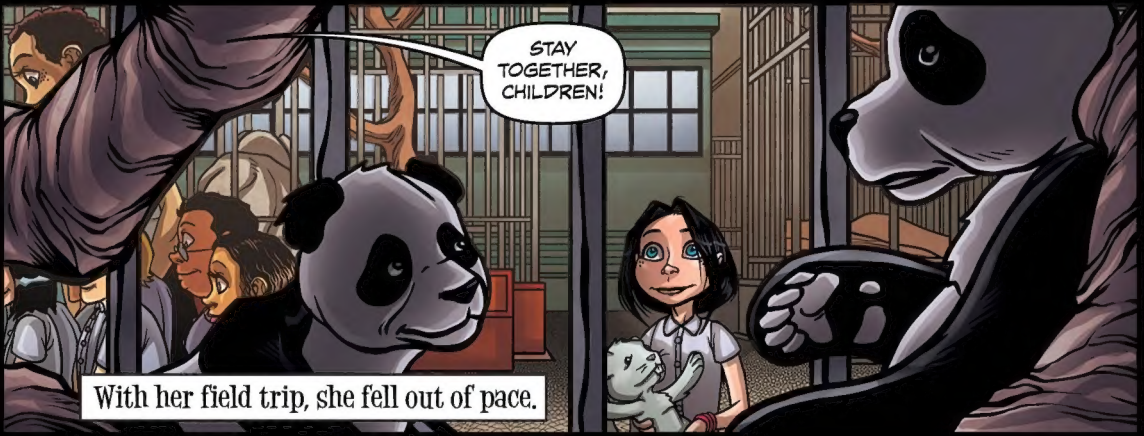
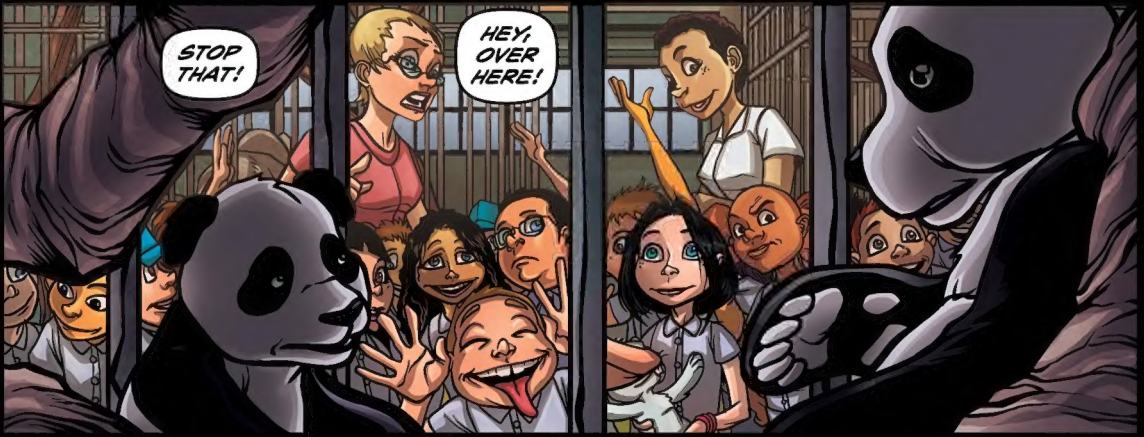
Liezl BUENAVENTURA

CHAPTER 1





There was no gentler child than sweet Grace.



With her field trip, she fell out of pace.



And away she was carried.









GRACE,
BABY, WHERE
ARE YOU?



RING
RING
RING



HELLO?

YES,
THIS IS
AMANDA.

OH,
GOD!

IS
MY BABY
OKAY?

WHY
HAVE
YOU...?

PLEASE,
DON'T!

I
UNDERSTAND.

YES,
I'LL WAIT
FOR YOUR
CALL.

I'LL
HAVE THE
MONEY.

I
UNDERSTAND.
NO POLICE.

PLEASE,
PLEASE DON'T
HURT GRACE.

LET ME
SPEAK TO MY
GRACE.



BABY?

MOMMY?
--CLIK!



GRACE?







Poor Grace
couldn't help it,
though she tried.



She sniffled,
she sobbed and
she cried.



It drove Larry insane.



And to ease his own pain...



...Threw the bunny
in bed by her side.





MOMMY?
MOMMY, I'M
SCARED. STABBITY
SAYS THIS IS A
REALLY BAD
MAN.

YES, MOMMY,
I'M OKAY. HE HASN'T
HURT ME.



MOMMY?



HEH.
PERFECT.



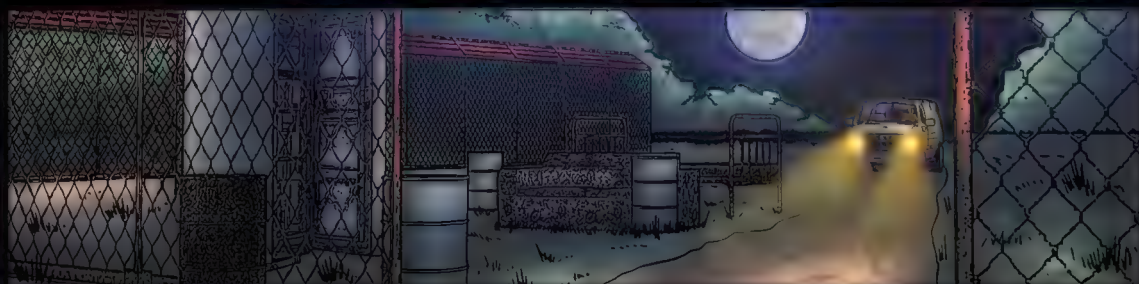


He couldn't afford to serve time.

He wouldn't be charged with this crime.

Larry would bury all traces
adding to unsolved cases.

One small grave he dusted with lime.

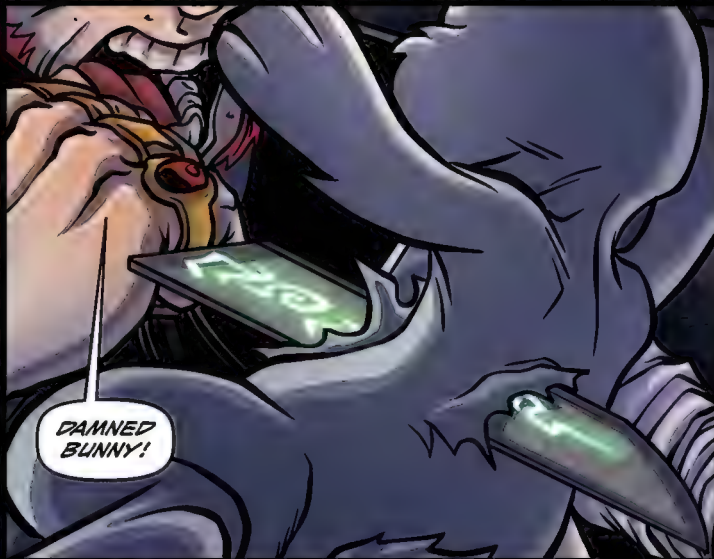




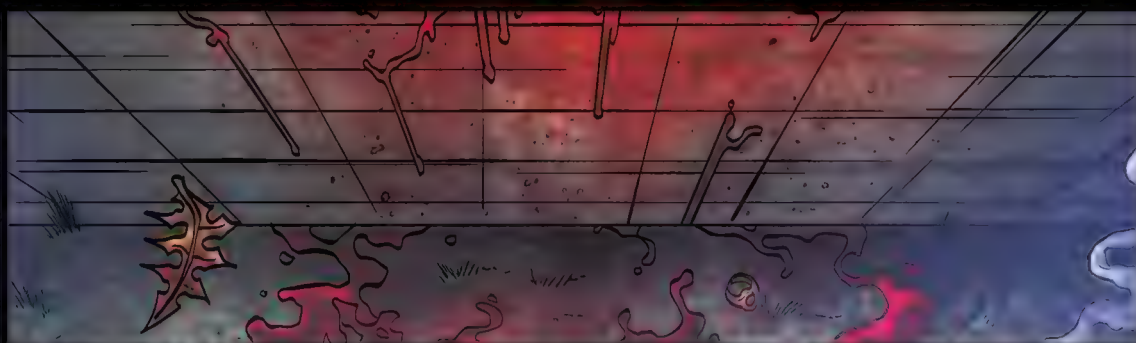
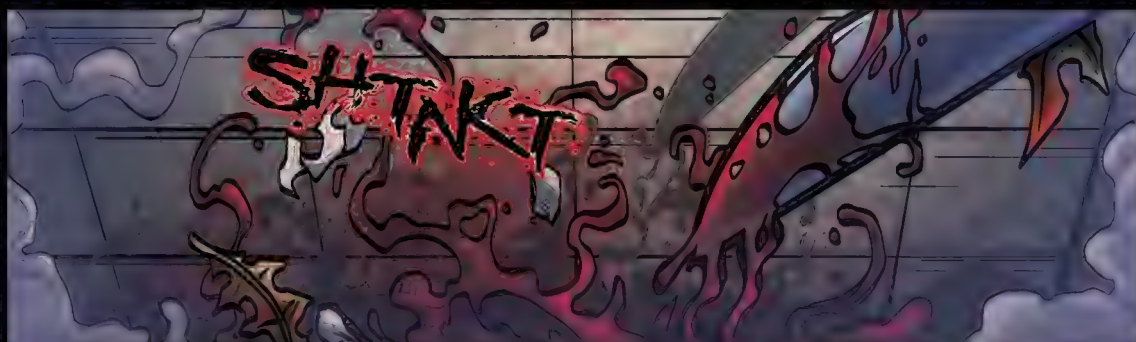




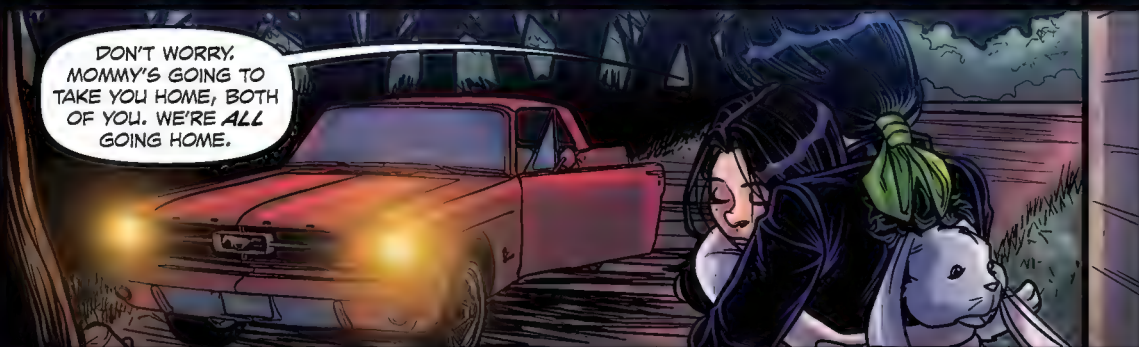
AAAAAAA-
UHUUUUH.













RUN AWAY,
RUN AWAY, RUN
AWAY HOME...

SEE
YOU SOON,
DEAR.



The details were blessedly blurry.



Sounds of struggle
and plush-pawed fury.



Perhaps Larry had fled.



Maybe Larry was dead.

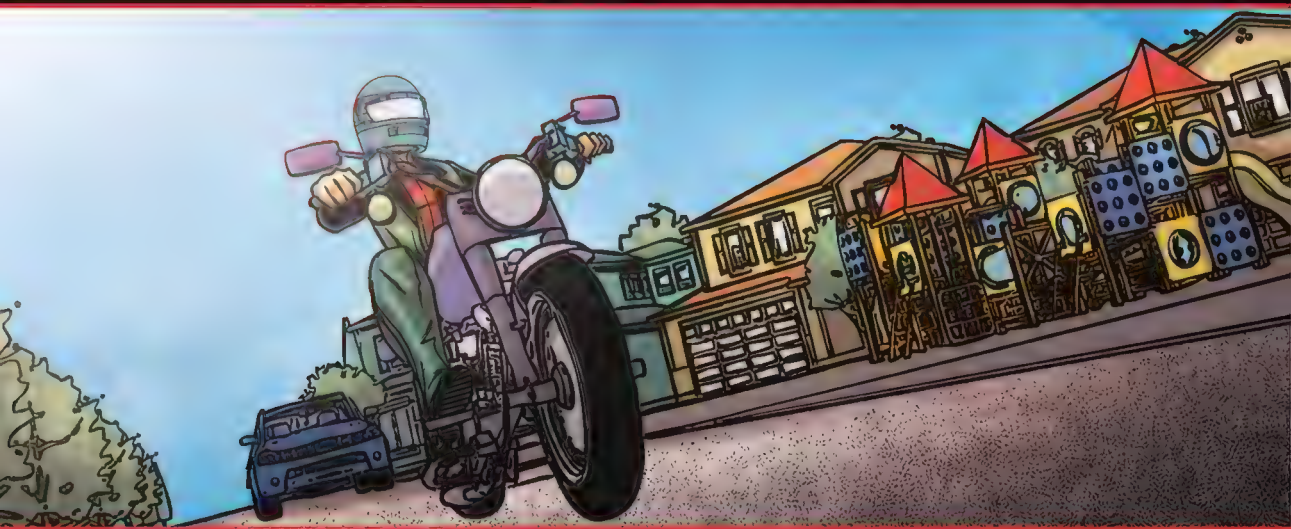


Either way, Grace wasn't to worry.



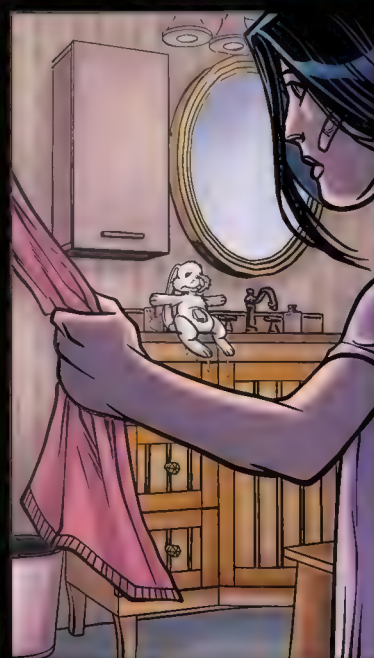
CONTINUED...

CHAPTER 2





STABBITY WAS HURT AND MOMMY SAYS
SHE IS GOING TO GET A SEWING KIT AND
FIX HIM. SHE SAYS WE ARE WAITING FOR
NANA TO GET HERE BEFORE WE CAN GO
SHOPPING? I THINK I KNOW WHAT TO DO.
BANDAIDS! THEY FIX PEOPLE AND I BET
THEY WILL FIX STABBITY TOO. I'LL WASH
HIM AND GET A BAND-AID AND SEE IF THAT
HELPS MAKE HIM ALL BETTER.







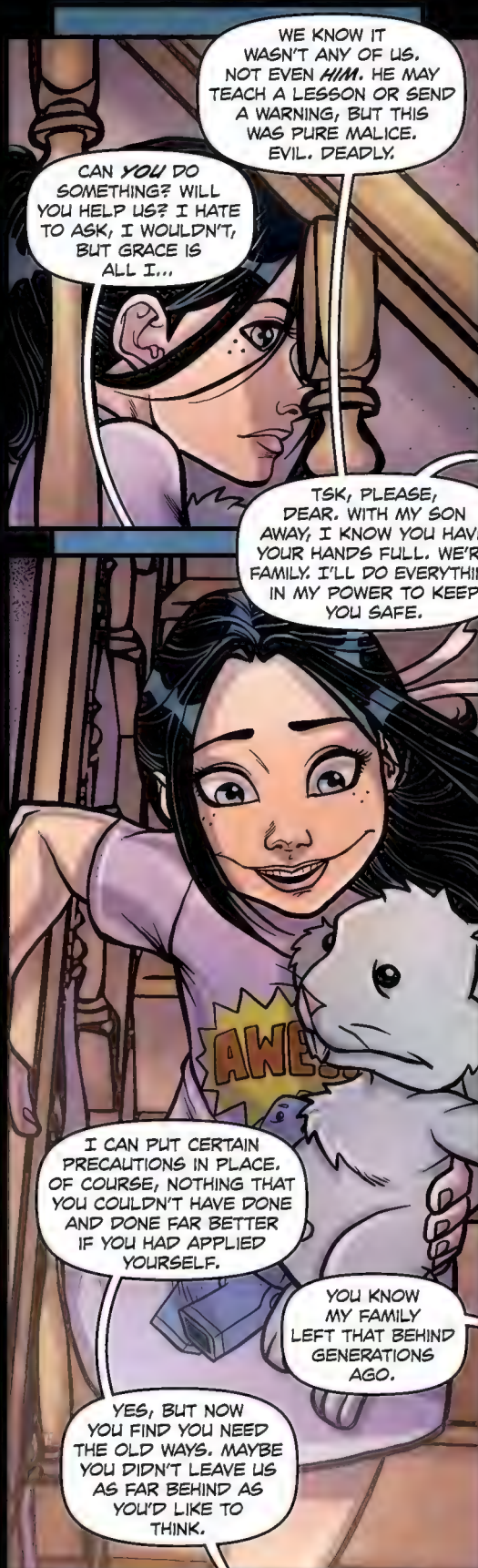
SHE'S DOING GREAT, BETTER THAN I AM. WE'VE HAD THE WEEKEND, AND I KEPT HER HOME TODAY, BUT SHE WANTS TO GO TO SCHOOL, SEE HER FRIENDS... I'M AFRAID.

OF *COURSE* YOU ARE, DEAR. IT'S DIFFERENT FOR GRACE. NOTHING BAD HAS *EVER* HAPPENED TO HER BEFORE THIS. YOU WORRY, YOU'RE HER MOTHER, AND YOU WANT TO PROTECT HER. GRACE CONSIDERS IT OVER, SCARY, BUT OVER.

THIS WAS ALMOST TOO MUCH FOR ME. WE WERE TARGETED. THEY KNEW ABOUT *US*, THINGS NO OUTSIDER SHOULD KNOW OR EVEN SUSPECT.

BUT, DEAR, SURELY...

NO, *NO*... YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND! FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE MY BABY WAS BORN, SHE WAS *GONE*! I COULDN'T SENSE HER. SOMEONE OR SOMETHING BLOCKED OUR CONNECTION.



WE KNOW IT WASN'T ANY OF US. NOT EVEN *HIM*. HE MAY TEACH A LESSON OR SEND A WARNING, BUT THIS WAS PURE MALICE. EVIL. DEADLY.

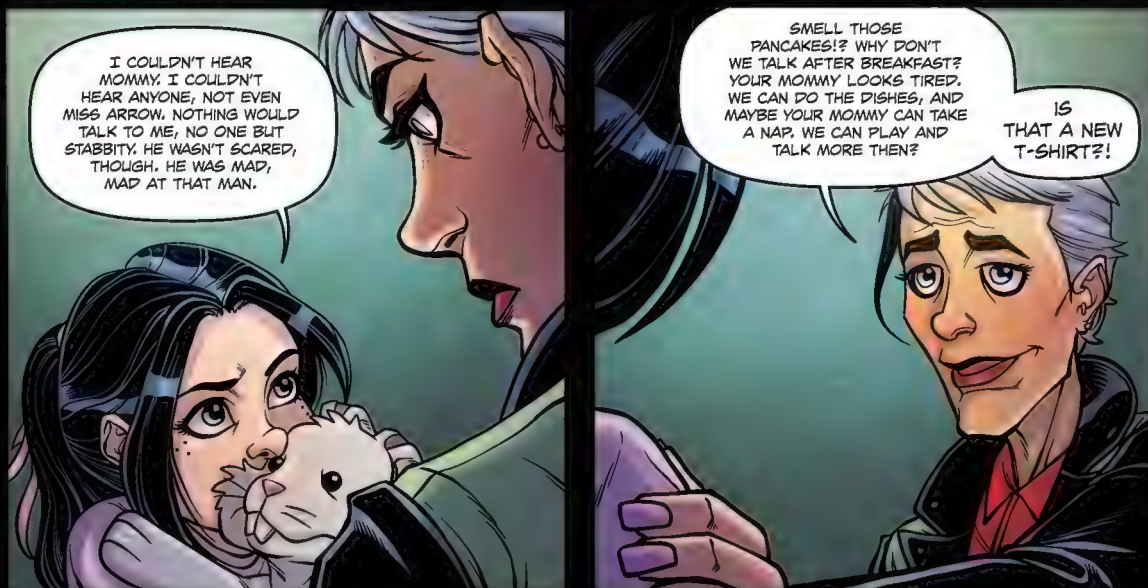
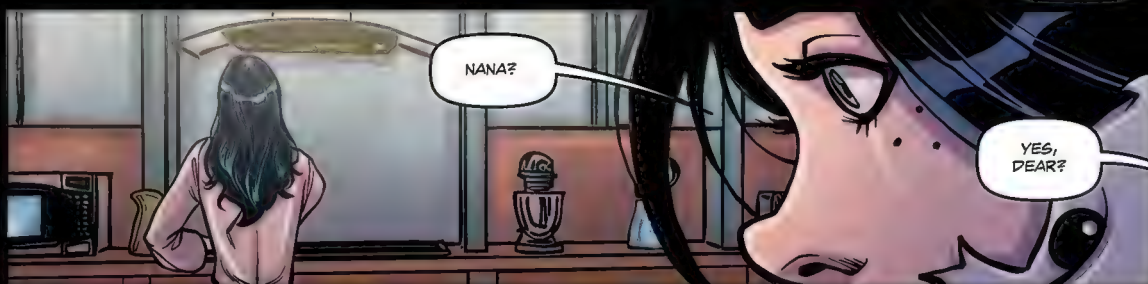
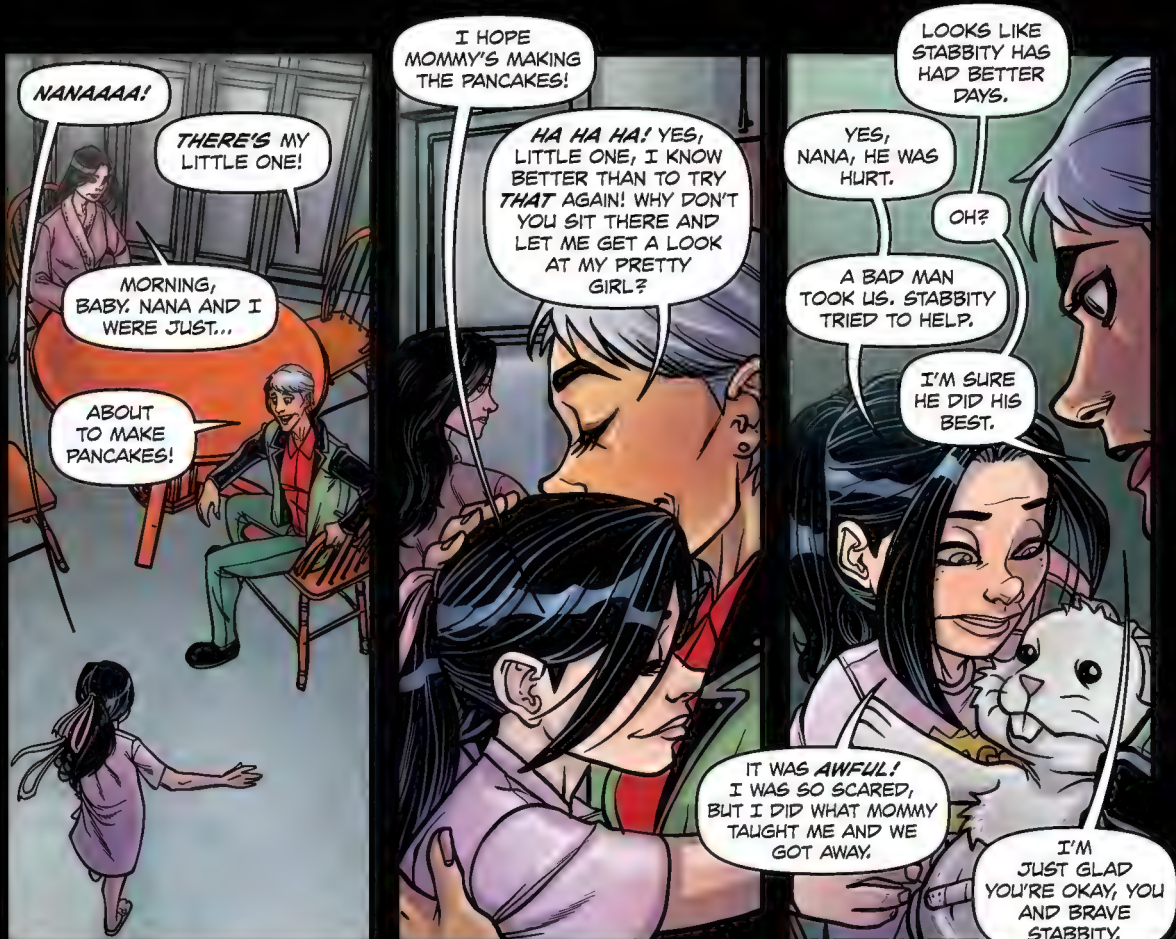
CAN *YOU* DO SOMETHING? WILL YOU HELP US? I HATE TO ASK, I WOULDN'T, BUT GRACE IS ALL I...

TSK, PLEASE, DEAR. WITH MY SON AWAY, I KNOW YOU HAVE YOUR HANDS FULL. WE'RE FAMILY. I'LL DO EVERYTHING IN MY POWER TO KEEP YOU SAFE.

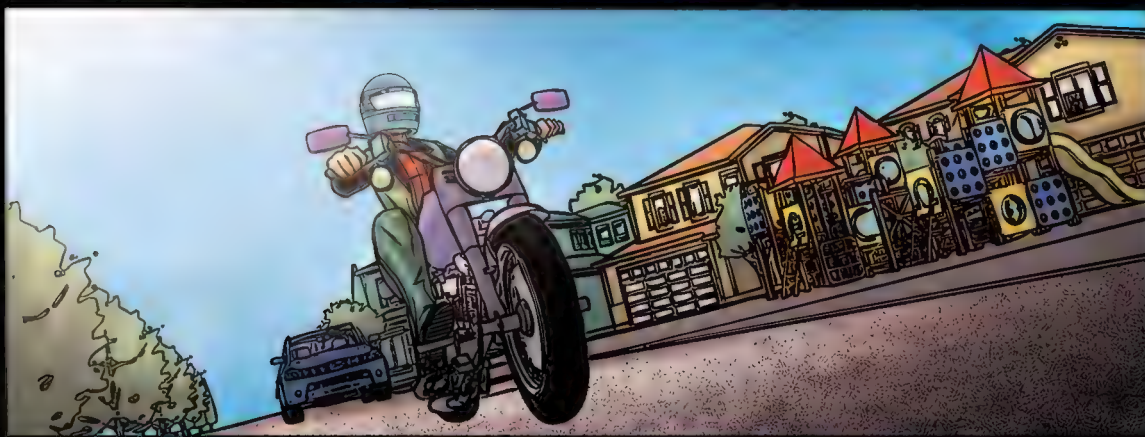
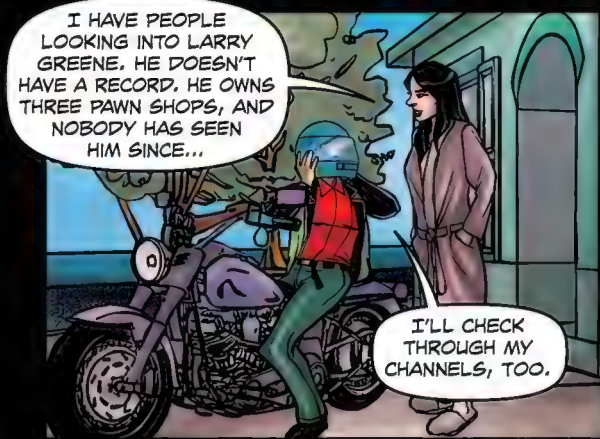
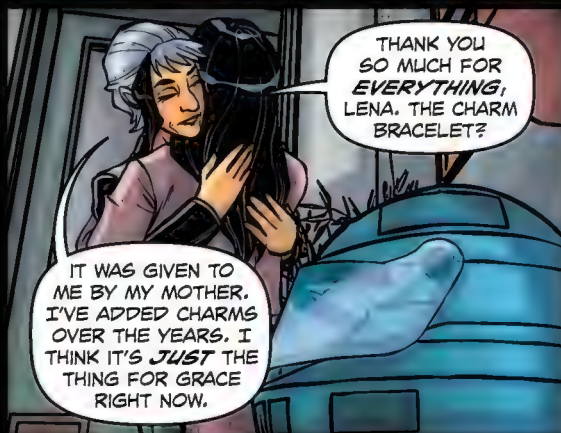
I CAN PUT CERTAIN PRECAUTIONS IN PLACE. OF COURSE, NOTHING THAT YOU COULDN'T HAVE DONE AND DONE FAR BETTER IF YOU HAD APPLIED YOURSELF.

YOU KNOW MY FAMILY LEFT THAT BEHIND GENERATIONS AGO.

YES, BUT NOW YOU FIND YOU NEED THE OLD WAYS. MAYBE YOU DIDN'T LEAVE US AS FAR BEHIND AS YOU'D LIKE TO THINK.











WAAAAAH!

THAT'S
IT!

I'LL
TELL YOU WHAT
STINKS!

CINDY WAS
SO **RIGHT**
ABOUT YOU!

HONEY, THANKS
FOR HELPING OUT
TODAY. MARTI MUST
BE FEELING REALLY
BAD TO CALL IN SICK
ON TRUCK DAY!

IT'S TAKE
YOUR WIFE TO
WORK DAY!



MS. MOO WILL
BE FINE, AND AMY
IS WATCHING THE HOUSE.
IT'S LIKE A LITTLE VACATION
FOR ME. ANY TIME I CAN
GET MORE TIME WITH MY
MAN, I'M HAPPY.

THAT GOES
DOUBLE FOR ME,
PRECIOUS LADY!



I LOVE YOUR
GREEN HAIR
TODAY, IS THAT
THE ONE WE GOT
IN BRASIL?

ONE OF
ABOUT A DOZEN
YOU BOUGHT ME
FOR THAT **TRIP**,
SWEETIE.

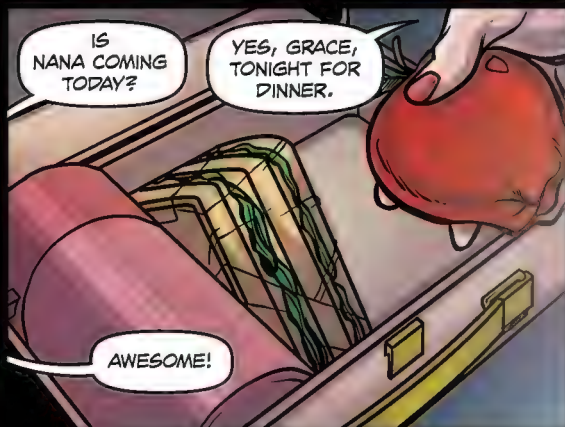


HUMPH.

DID YOU HEAR
SOMETHING?

WHAT
WAS IT,
SWEETIE?

NOT SURE,
NOW WHERE WERE
WE, BRASIL?





GRACE! HI, MRS. LEE.

RONNIE!

HI, RONNIE! YOU TWO HAVE A FUN DAY AT SCHOOL. DO YOU NEED A RIDE HOME TODAY?

YES, PLEASE.



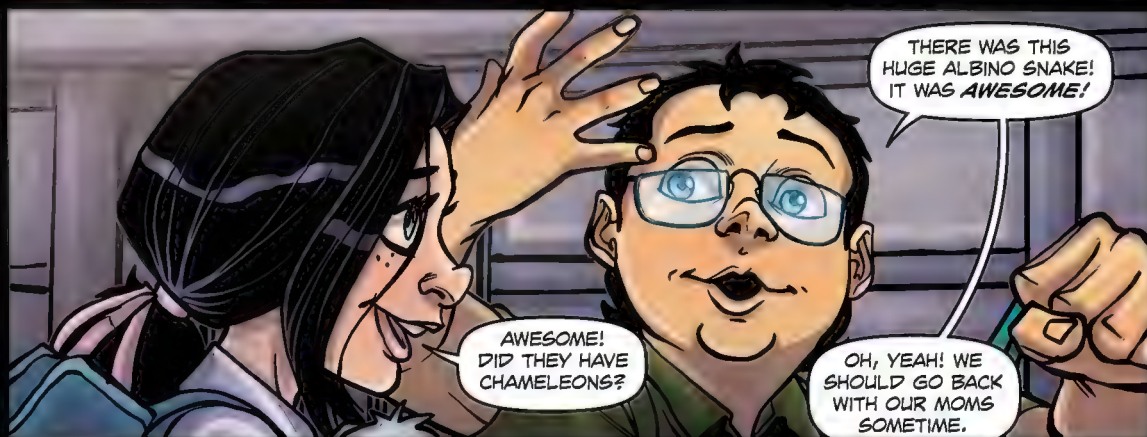
EVERYTHING OKAY? WHAT HAPPENED?

MY NANA IS VISITING.

OH, WHY WOULD THAT...

WHAT DID I MISS AFTER THE PANDAS?!

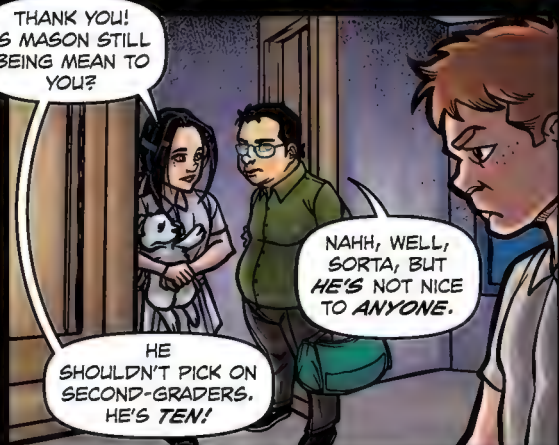
OHH, MAN! YOU MISSED THE REPTILES!



THERE WAS THIS HUGE ALBINO SNAKE! IT WAS **AWESOME!**

AWESOME! DID THEY HAVE CHAMELEONS?

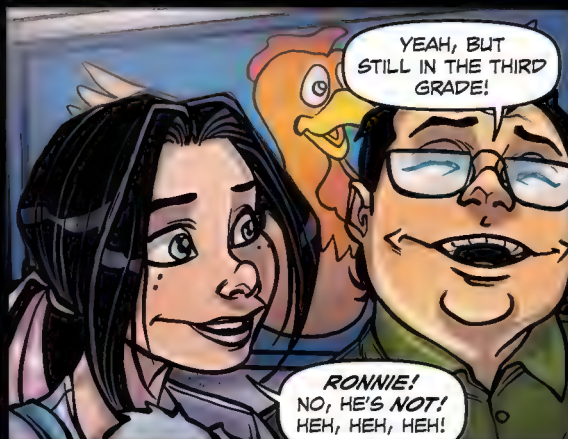
OH, YEAH! WE SHOULD GO BACK WITH OUR MOMS SOMETIME.



THANK YOU! IS MASON STILL BEING MEAN TO YOU?

NAHH, WELL, SORTA, BUT HE'S NOT NICE TO **ANYONE.**

HE SHOULDN'T PICK ON SECOND-GRADERS. HE'S **TEN!**



YEAH, BUT STILL IN THE THIRD GRADE!

RONNIE! NO, HE'S **NOT!** HEH, HEH, HEH!

DID YOU SEE?
WHY WAS MRS. CAMPBELL
CRYING AFTER SHE READ
US THAT POEM TODAY?

SHE
WAS SAD.

BUT
IT WASN'T A
SAD POEM.

FOR
HER... IT *WAS*.
MAYBE SHE WAS
ALREADY SAD.

I
DON'T GET
IT.

THEY FIXED
THE SLIDE! BUT WE
STILL HAVE TO GO ONE
AT A TIME, OR MR.
SHEFFIELD HAS
A COW!

A
COW?

A COW,
DUDE! COWABUNGA?
SIMPSONS?

I
DON'T GET
IT.

THANK
YOU, BUT I
ONLY BOUGHT
THE MILK.

THIS ONE HAS
NO ICING, JUST THE
WAY YOU LIKE THEM,
GRACE. DON'T WORRY,
I PAID FOR IT.

THANK YOU,
MRS. PIAZZA. BUT
WHY DID YOU...?

RIGHT *THERE*,
GRACE. IF FOR NO
OTHER REASON THAN YOU
ARE THE *ONLY* STUDENT
THAT *DOESN'T* CALL
ME "MRS. PIZZA."

THANK YOU,
MRS. PIZ-- MRS.
PI-AZZA.

YOU'RE
WELCOME,
RONNIE.

YOU'RE
SO LUCKY!

I DON'T
KNOW HOW
SHE KNEW.

MUST
BE A LUNCH
LADY SUPER
POWER!

OKAY,
HERE YOU
GO.

YOU'RE
WASTING
IT!?

NO, STABBITY
WANTS IT. THAT'S
NOT WASTING.

BUT,
GRACE!

CAN I HAVE
WHAT *STABBITY*
DOESN'T EAT?

DID YOU
HAVE TO THROW
IT AWAY? WHY WASTE
A PERFECTLY GOOD
CINAMMON ROLL?



STABBITY WAS
DONE. IT WASN'T
WASTED.

BUT
STABBITY
DOESN'T...



OWWWW!



RONNIE!
ARE YOU
OKAY?!



A PIECE OF
GLASS IS STUCK
IN MY KNEE!

I'LL GET THE
SCHOOL NURSE!
WHERE'S MR.
SHEFFIELD?!





OWWWW!

YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO DO THAT!



HOLD THAT ON YOUR KNEE, RONNIE.

IT REALLY HURTS *BAD*, GRACE!

CAN SOMEONE GET THE NURSE?!

DON'T YOU HAVE BAND-AIDS?



YOU NEED MORE THAN A BAND-AID, RONNIE.

THEN USE *TWO*, GRACE!

WHAT A BABY!

LIKE *YOU* WOULDN'T BE CRYING!



THAT FEELS BETTER! A LOT BETTER!

I'LL GO GET THE NURSE NOW!



I CAN WALK. I'LL GO!

RONNIE, YOU SHOULDN'T. LET HER COME HERE.

GRACE, I'LL BE FINE! I'M NOT A BABY. I'LL SEE YOU AT CLASS.



I SHOULD HELP YOU! WAIT UP!

I'M GOOD, GRACE. I PROMISE!

SOUNDS
SERIOUS! WHAT DID
THE NURSE SAY, RONNIE?
SHE SENT YOU BACK
TO CLASS?

YES, MRS.
LEE, SHE SAID
I'D BE FINE. SHE
EVEN LEFT GRACE'S
BAND-AIDS ON!

LET ME
SEE. IT LOOKED
REALLY BAD.

HEY,
STOP
THAT!

MOMMY, YOU
SHOULD HAVE
SEEN IT!

DON'T
BE SUCH A
GIRL!

WHAT
DOES THAT
MEAN?

NUTHIN',
SORRY!

SEE
YOU TOMORROW! ARE
YOU WATCHING *FLASH*
TONIGHT?

YOU BET!
TONIGHT'S A
BIG DEAL!
CAN'T WAIT!

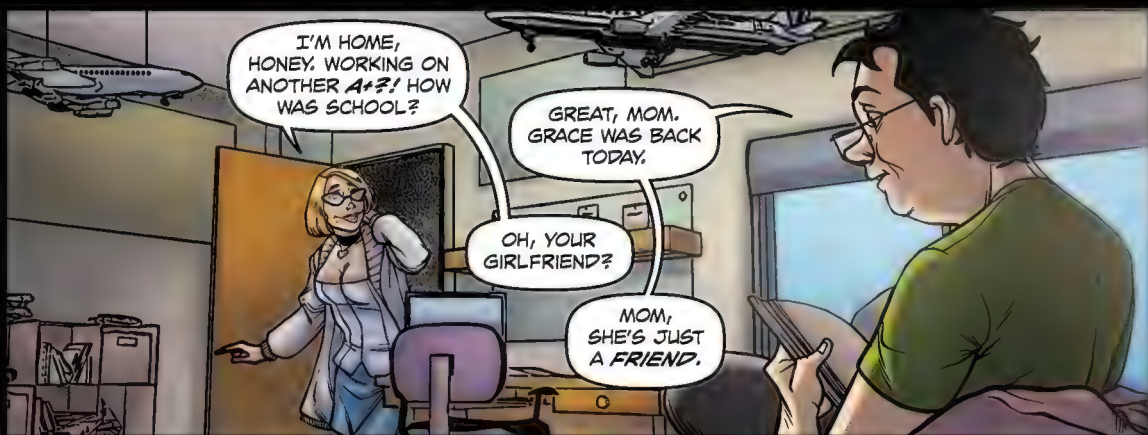
I WANT
UP FRONT,
MOMMY!

BETTER
ASK STABBITY
IF HE WANTS TO
GIVE UP HIS
SEAT!

WE'LL
SHARE!







I'M HOME, HONEY. WORKING ON ANOTHER A+? HOW WAS SCHOOL?

GREAT, MOM. GRACE WAS BACK TODAY.

OH, YOUR GIRLFRIEND?

MOM, SHE'S JUST A FRIEND.



GIVE YOUR MOM A HUG!

MOM! HEE HEE HEE HEE!



WHAT HAPPENED, HONEY?!

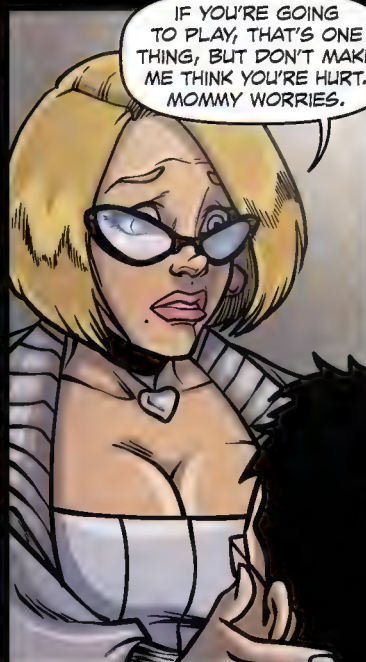
OH, A PIECE OF GLASS GOT STUCK--



RONNIE! A PIECE OF GLASS! LET ME SEE...



MUST HAVE BEEN A VERY TINY PIECE, RONNIE. YOU HAD ME FRIGHTENED!

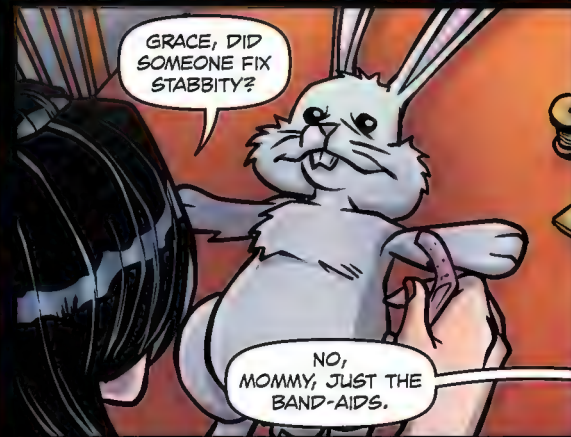


IF YOU'RE GOING TO PLAY, THAT'S ONE THING, BUT DON'T MAKE ME THINK YOU'RE HURT. MOMMY WORRIES.



DINNER WILL BE READY IN FIFTEEN MINUTES, HONEY!

WE WEREN'T PLAYING...



HE'S GOING TO BE FINE, BABY. HOW ARE YOU? HOW DID YOU KNOW THE MAN'S NAME?



IT WAS ON HIS CARD. I TOOK IT FROM HIS POCKET. HE TIED MY HANDS IN *FRONT* OF ME, MOMMY... WITH ROPE.

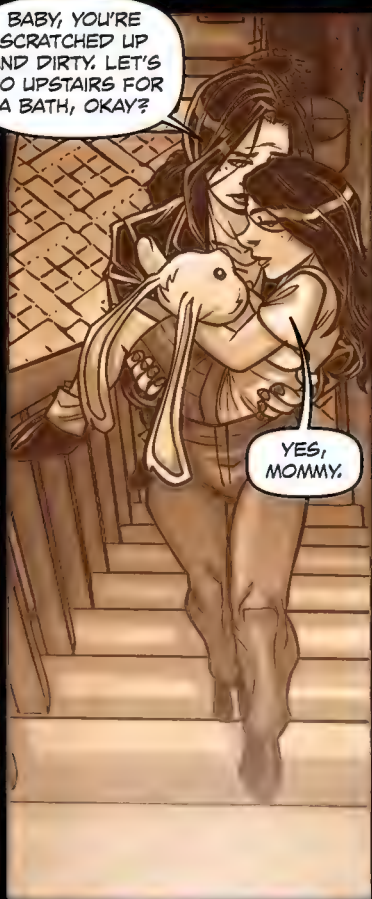


OH, GRACE... GRACE...



MOMMY, I'M OKAY, DON'T CRY.

BABY, YOU'RE SCRATCHED UP AND DIRTY. LET'S GO UPSTAIRS FOR A BATH, OKAY?



YES, MOMMY.

I'LL RUN THE WATER. DO YOU WANT SCRUBBY DUCK OR THE HIPPO?



SCRUBBY DUCK! AND BUBBLES!

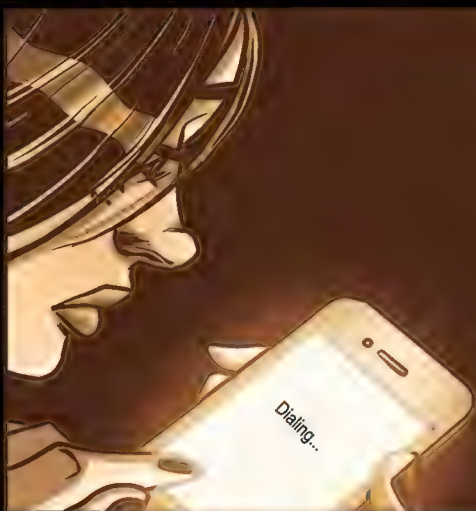
MOMMY WILL BE RIGHT OUTSIDE. I'LL GET A NIGHTSHIRT FOR YOU.



OUR DAUGHTER
WAS KIDNAPPED. SHE'S
SAFE. I HAVE HER. FIND
A WAY TO GET HOME. I
LOVE YOU.

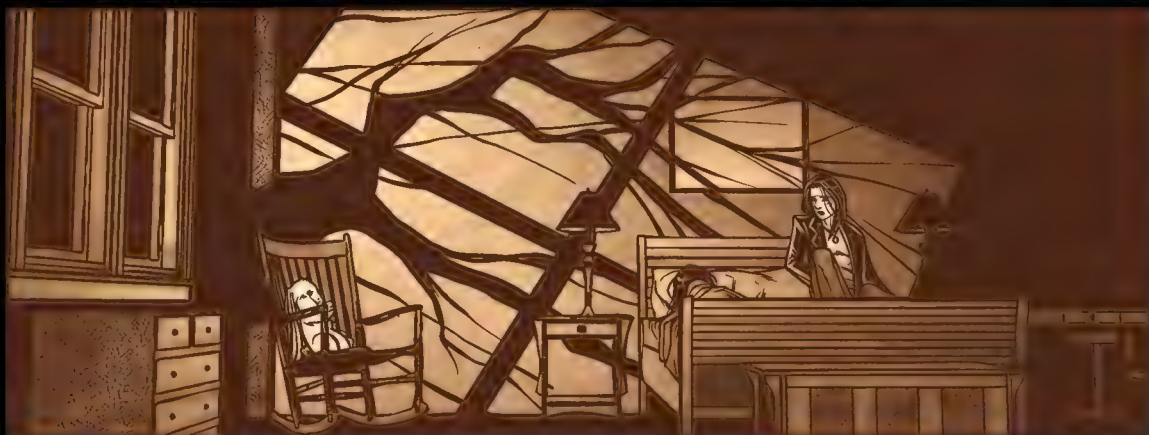
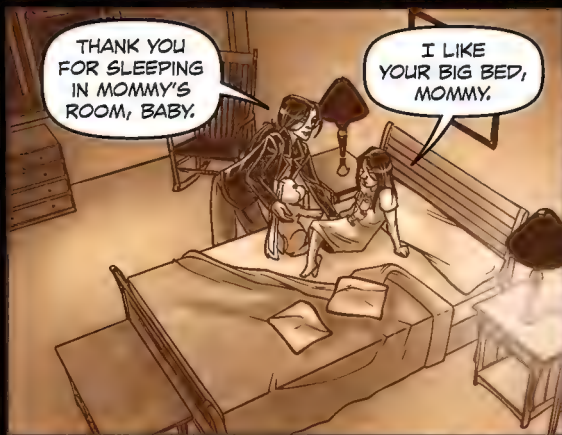


WE ALL
LIVE IN A YELLOW
SUNK MARINE!



LENA, GRACE
IS FINE, BUT SHE
WAS ABDUCTED. THEY
KNEW THINGS. WE...
WE NEED YOU.





MY LITTLE GIRL.
YOU WERE SO BRAVE. IF I
WASN'T SO TERRIFIED, I'D
BE PROUD OF YOU.

LISTEN TO
YOURSELF, AMANDA.
PROUD?! THAT'S MY
MOTHER TALKING,
NOT ME. SHE'S THE
ONE WHO DRILLED
ALL OF THIS...

NO, SORRY, MOM. I KNOW THE
DANGERS ARE REAL. YOU AND
DAD DID WHAT YOU THOUGHT
WAS BEST. YOU KEPT ME SAFE.

THERE'S ONLY
ONE PERSON I
REALLY BLAME...

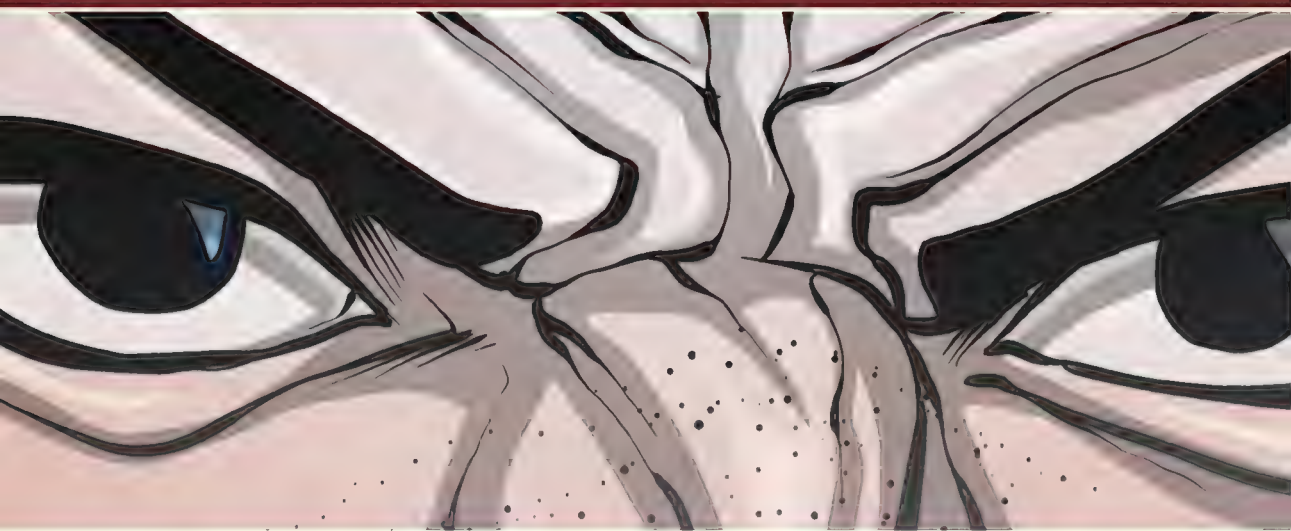
SLEEP, BABY.
STABBITY AND I WILL
WATCH OVER YOU.

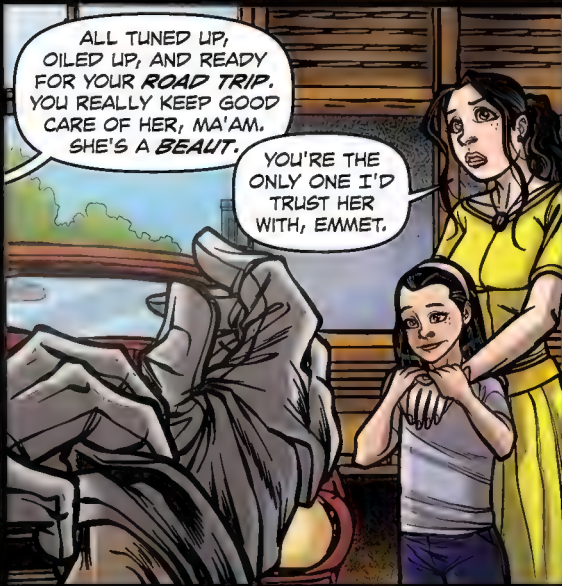


I THINK
WE'RE ALL GOING
TO BE OKAY.



CHAPTER 3





ALL TUNED UP,
OILED UP, AND READY
FOR YOUR **ROAD TRIP**.
YOU REALLY KEEP GOOD
CARE OF HER, MA'AM.
SHE'S A **BEAUT**.

YOU'RE THE
ONLY ONE I'D
TRUST HER
WITH, EMMET.



SOMETIME
YOU'LL HAVE TO
TELL ME ABOUT
ALL THE MODS. YOU
WOULDN'T KNOW IT
BY LOOKING AT
HER, BUT SHE'S
A TANK.

SHE WAS MY
DAD'S BABY. HE
LIKED TO TINKER.
I DON'T KNOW
MUCH ABOUT ALL
THAT STUFF.



UNCLE EMMET!
THANK YOU FOR
THE LOLLIPOP!

YOU ARE
MOST WELCOME,
MISS GRACE.



YOU
LOOK MIGHTY NICE.
GOING TO SEE YOUR
GREAT-GRAMPS?

GRANDPA
DEZI! AND HIS
DUCKS, HA!

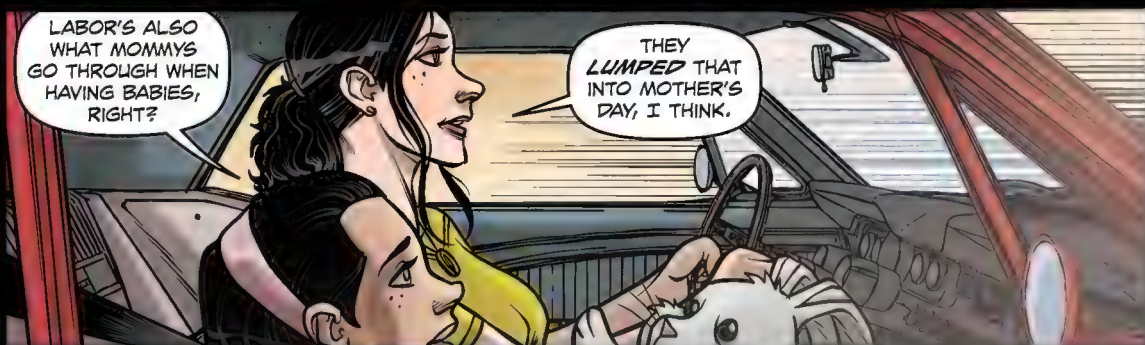
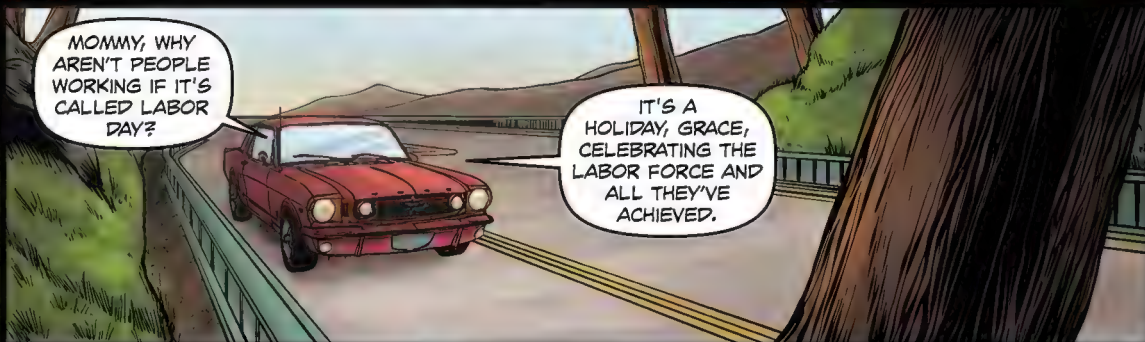


GOOD TO
SPEND TIME
WITH FAMILY...
AND DUCKS.

HOW IS UNCLE
WALLY? IS HIS LEG
ALL BETTER?



OH YES, THANK
YOU FOR ASKING.
HE'S BACK ON THE
ROAD AND NO LONGER
DRIVING ME CRAZY
WITH THAT DANGED
BELL 24/7.

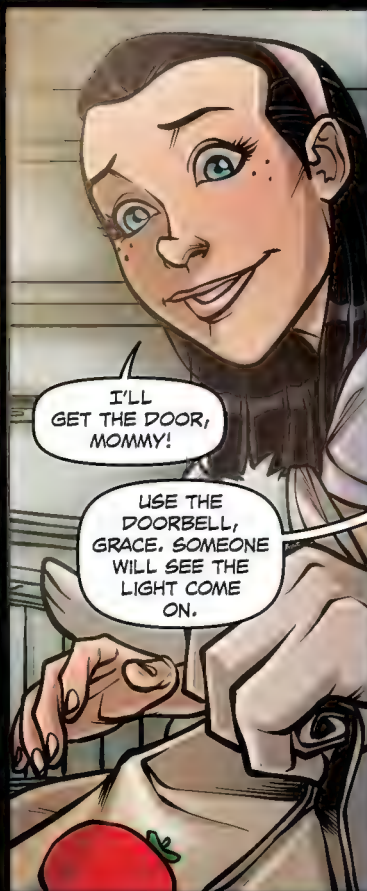




THANK YOU FOR STOPPING TO GET TOMATOES, MOMMY! SWEETIE AND QUACKERS LOVE THEM!

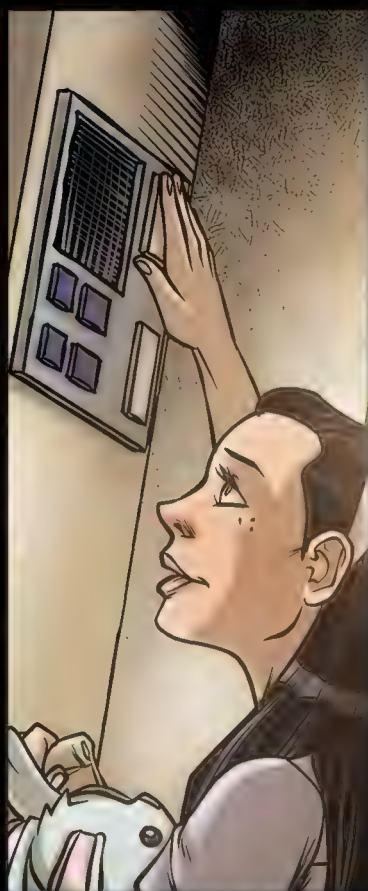
WE'RE HERE FOR THE WEEKEND, BABY, SO DON'T FEED THE DUCKS ALL OF THOSE TODAY.

HA HA! I WON'T, MOMMY!



I'LL GET THE DOOR, MOMMY!

USE THE DOORBELL, GRACE. SOMEONE WILL SEE THE LIGHT COME ON.



WHAT A BEAUTIFUL OUTFIT. SUCH A CUTE LITTLE GIRL. YOUR EYES SPARKLE. YOU MUST BE GRACE.

HI.



WE HAVEN'T
MET BEFORE.
I'M AMANDA.

I'M NURSE
MYRTLE YODER,
THE AGENCY SENT
ME. I GUESS THIS
IS MY... THIRD
WEEK HERE?

DESMOND IS
SUCH A DELIGHT,
SO TALENTED AND
SO FUNNY! I WISH
I HAD HALF HIS
ENERGY.



HE IS
USUALLY AT
HIS BEST BEFORE
SUNSET, THOUGH
TODAY HE HAS BEEN
EXTRA EXCITED,
OF COURSE.

DID
SUSAN RETIRE,
OR...?

SHE MOVED.
IT WAS QUITE
SUDDEN. SHE WAS
MARVELOUS.



SHE IS. I'LL
MISS HER. OF
COURSE, I'M
HAPPY YOU'RE
HERE.

OF COURSE.
I'M NO SUSAN,
BUT I WILL TAKE VERY
GOOD CARE OF YOUR
GRANDFATHER,
AMANDA.



IS GRANDPA
DEZI AWAKE? MAY
WE SEE HIM?



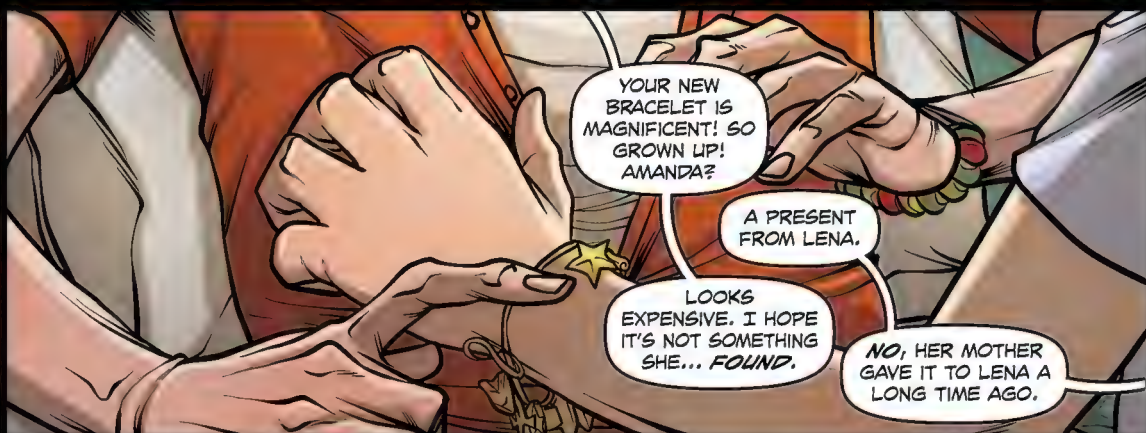
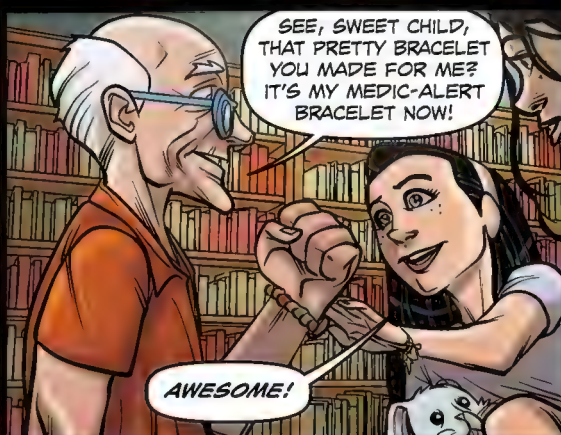
SUCH A POLITE
CHILD! YOU MUST BE
PROUD, AMANDA.

LET ME PEEK IN,
BUT I BELIEVE HE'S
UP AND EXCITED TO
SEE YOU BOTH!



MR.
FITZGERALD!
YOU HAVE
VISITORS!

**GRANDPA
DEZI!**



GOING DOWN!
FIRST FLOOR,
MEN'S FOOTWEAR,
HABERDASHERY
AND DUCK
LAKE!

I'LL GET
YOUR SLIPPERS
AND YOUR...
HAT? GRANDPA
DEZI?

YES! VERY
GOOD, GRACE,
AND THANK
YOU, DEAR.

UH-OH.

MR. FITZGERALD,
IT'S TIME FOR
MEDS AND LUNCH IN
AN HOUR. YOU CAN
GO LATER?

WE CAN ALL
GO THIS EVENING
AND ANYWAY, THE
LIGHT IS PRETTIER
THEN, GRANDPA.

YOU TWO GO
ON AHEAD. MR.
FOYLE SHOULD
BE OUT THERE.

WE'LL
SEE YOU
AT LUNCH,
GRANDPA.
MYRTLE.

BYE,
GRANDPA
DEZI!

MR.
FOYLE IS THE
GARDENER?

YES,
BABY.

I LIKE HIM.
HE SMELLS LIKE
FLOWERS AND
CUT GRASS...

THIS IS
A GREAT
CROWD!

ABSOLUTELY,
MR. MAYOR. YOU
HAVE THIS SPECIAL
ELECTION IN
THE BAG.

YOU'VE DONE A
GREAT JOB, SINCE
MAYOR SAROYAN'S
PASSING.

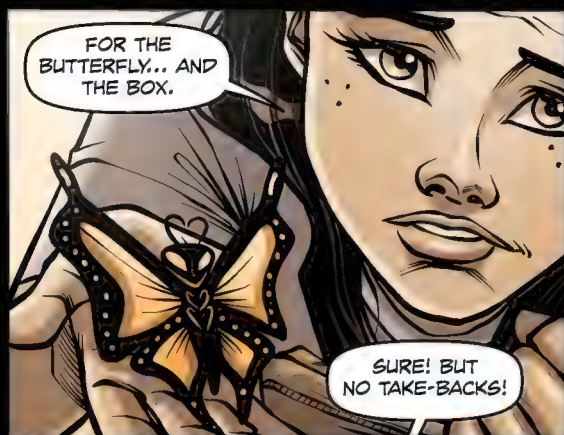
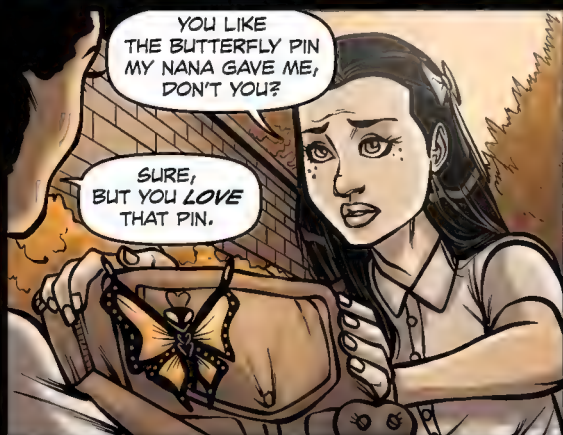
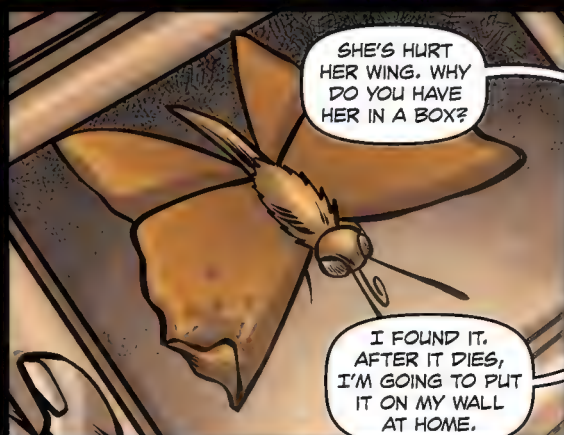
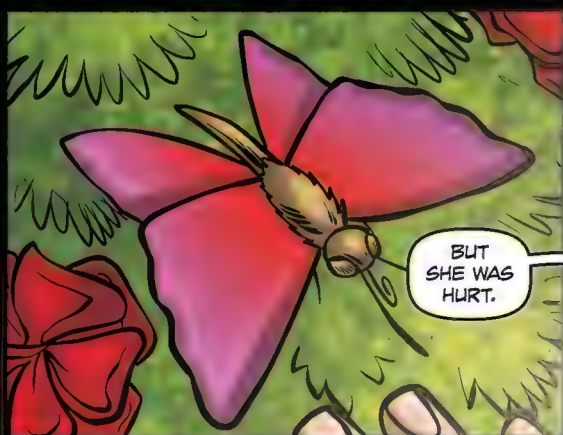
BUT WE MUST
MOVE FORWARD.
LET'S MINGLE.

YOU
HAVE YOUR
CAMERA?

IT WAS
HORRIBLE. SO
UNEXPECTED.









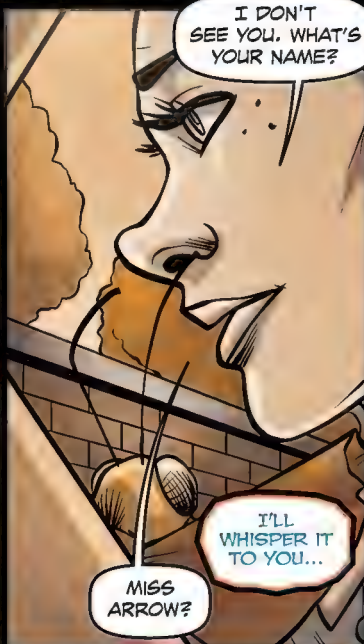
YOU CAN'T FLY ANYMORE. I BET YOU'RE HUNGRY. LET'S FIND A BUSH YOU CAN LIVE IN.

SUCH A SWEET, CARING CHILD...



WAS THAT YOU, MISS BUTTERFLY?

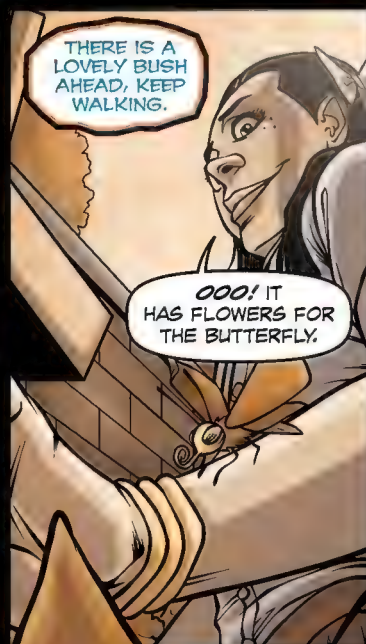
YOU CAN HEAR ME?! NO, GRACE, IT WASN'T THE BUTTERFLY. THEY RARELY TALK.



I DON'T SEE YOU. WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

MISS ARROW?

I'LL WHISPER IT TO YOU...



THERE IS A LOVELY BUSH AHEAD, KEEP WALKING.

OOO! IT HAS FLOWERS FOR THE BUTTERFLY.



HOLD ON!

THIS IS QUITE SOMETHING!

W'boooosh



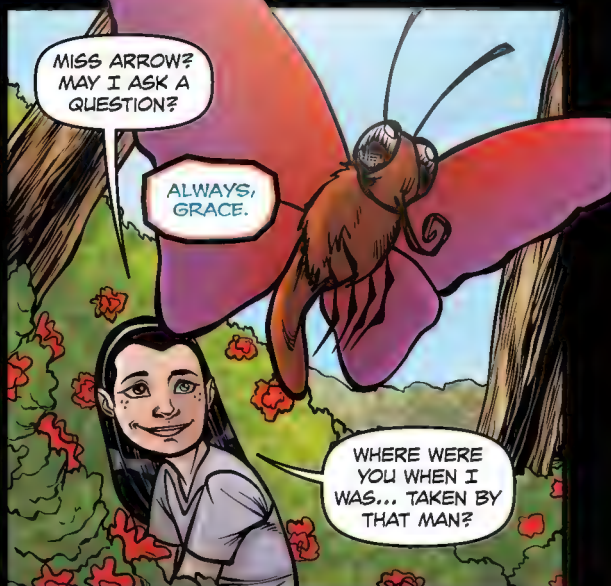
SHE'S FLYING!

SO SHE IS...



THIS IS ONE OF HER MANY, MANY CHILDREN. THEY ALL KNOW YOU, GRACE.

SHE'S BEAUTIFUL!



MISS ARROW? MAY I ASK A QUESTION?

ALWAYS, GRACE.

WHERE WERE YOU WHEN I WAS... TAKEN BY THAT MAN?



I WAS THERE, MY CHILD, BUT SOMETHING WAS VERY WRONG. YOU COULDN'T HEAR ME.

DID THE MAN, MR. GREENE, DO SOMETHING?

IN A WAY, BUT HE WAS USING BORROWED POWER.



WAS THAT WHY EVEN MOMMY COULDN'T FIND ME?

YES, GRACE. VERY FEW HAVE THE POWER TO SEVER THAT BOND.

DO YOU KNOW WHY...?

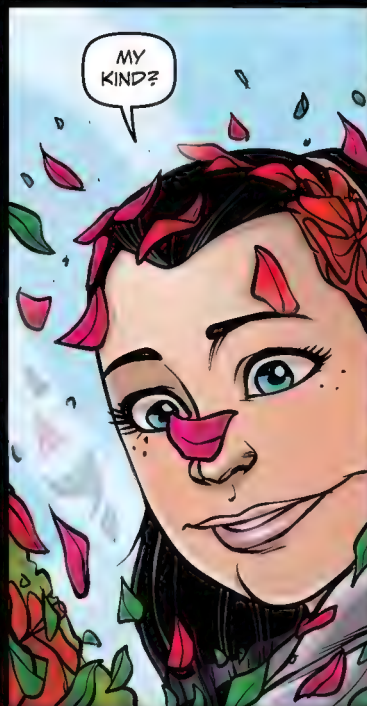
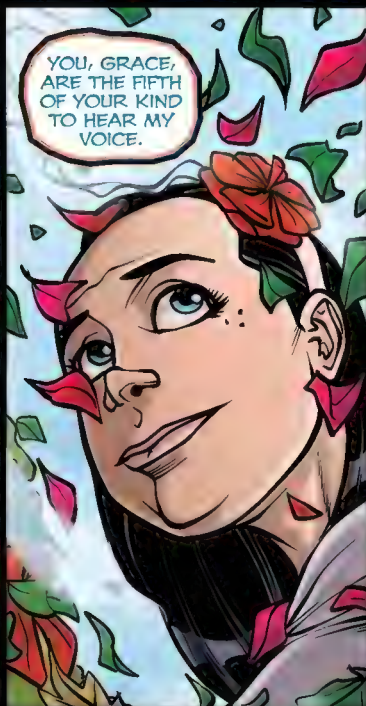


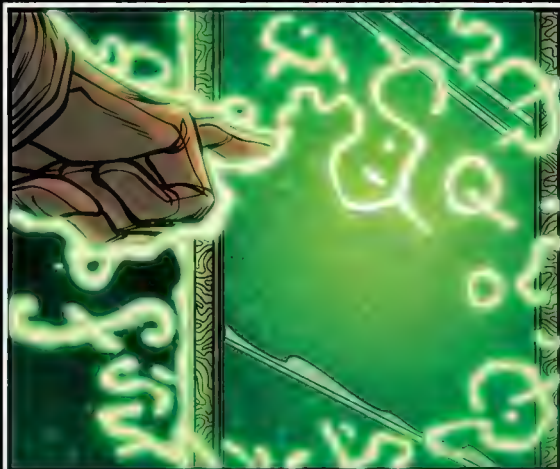
I CAN'T SAY, CHILD. I'M SORRY.

CAN MOMMY HEAR YOU?

I THINK ONCE, SHE COULD HEAR THE NOTES, BUT SHE CHOSE TO IGNORE MY SONG.

SHE WAS LED ALONG A DIFFERENT PATH BY HER MOTHER.







IT'S IN A
SMALL SHOP
OFF OF KIRBY
AVENUE.

I'LL
GO TODAY.

BETTER HURRY,
EVERYTHING IS
20% OFF!



ARE YOU
SERIOUS?!

WELL,
I...



I'LL WAIT
UNTIL THE SHOP
CLOSES AND TAKE
THE QUILL.

OF
COURSE...

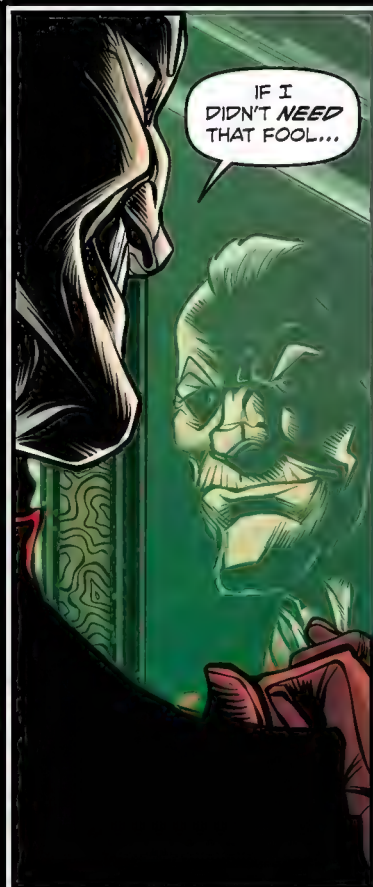


YOU'LL
HAVE THE INK
WE NEED?

YES,
COLLECTING
SOME MORE
TODAY, IN
FACT.



VERY
G--



IF I
DIDN'T *NEED*
THAT FOOL...



LUNCH WAS GOOD, HUH, BABY?

YES, MOMMY.



SORRY ABOUT GRANDPA DEZI, GRACE.

WHY, MOMMY?



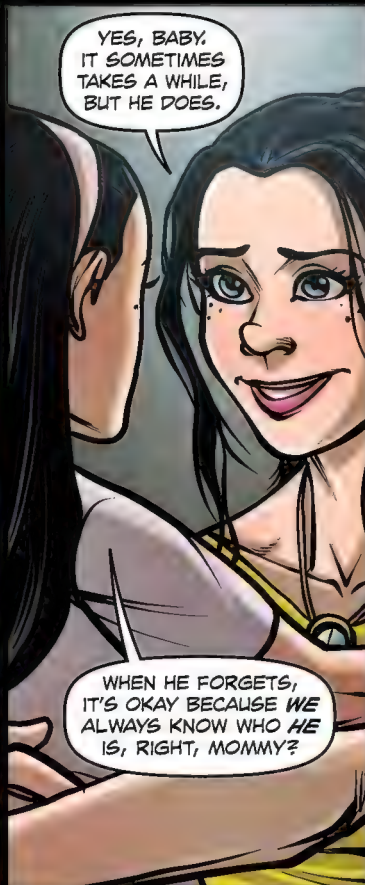
EXCITEMENT... EVEN SEEING US CAN SOMETIMES CAUSE HIM TO GET CONFUSED, HE FORGETS PEOPLE AND...

MOMMY, IT DOESN'T MATTER.



WHAT DO YOU MEAN, BABY?

GRANDPA DEZI CAN FORGET WHO WE ARE, BUT HE GETS BETTER AFTER HE RESTS, RIGHT, MOMMY?



YES, BABY. IT SOMETIMES TAKES A WHILE, BUT HE DOES.

WHEN HE FORGETS, IT'S OKAY BECAUSE *WE* ALWAYS KNOW WHO *HE* IS, RIGHT, MOMMY?



AND EVEN WHEN HE FORGETS OUR NAMES FOR A LITTLE WHILE, GRANDPA DEZI *STILL* LOVES US.



NOT EVEN MOTHER LOVED THAT FACE.



YOU DIDN'T GET MOTHER'S STRENGTH OR DADDY'S SENSE OF HUMOR, NOT EVEN AVAREE'S LOOKS OR, FOR THAT MATTER, ANYTHING...



UNLESS YOU COUNT PREMATURE AGING.

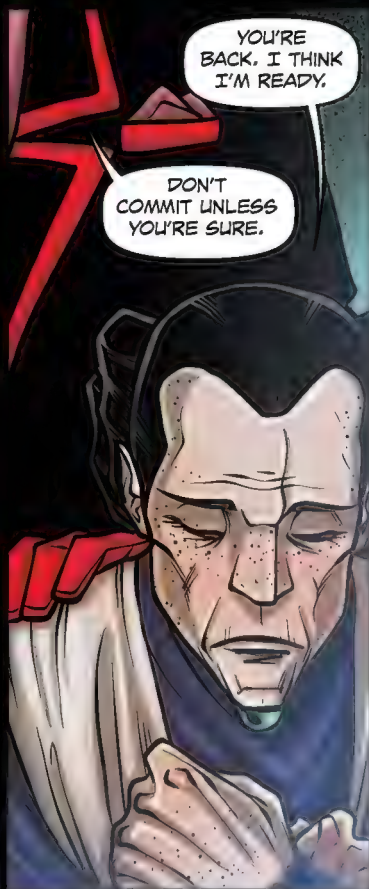
EVERYONE ELSE WAS BLESSED WITH SO MUCH. EVEN SUSAN WAS A BETTER NURSE THAN I AM.



LIFE IS SO UNFAIR!



IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE...



YOU'RE
BACK. I THINK
I'M READY.

DON'T
COMMIT UNLESS
YOU'RE SURE.



I'M SURE.
ANYTHING HAS TO BE
AN IMPROVEMENT.



AS WE DISCUSSED,
THERE IS THE MATTER OF
A SMALL PAYMENT...

TAKE IT.
I AGREE TO
THE TERMS.



THIS HURTS SO
MUCH *MORE* IF YOU
RESIST OR HAVE ANY
RESERVATIONS.

I'M NOT
AFRAID.

Crimson light shining
bright through the door



filled the hallway and
crept 'cross the floor.



But before
Grace could
knock...



Her charmed
bunny said "stop!"



So they left...



...and the glow
was no more.



I LOVE THAT STORY, GRANDPA DEZI! THE LITTLE GIRL, WAS THAT MOMMY'S MOMMY AND DID THE WISE, OLD OAK *REALLY* TELL YOU WHERE TO FIND HER?

YES, GRACE, THAT WAS MY PRECIOUS BABY GIRL, AUTUMN, AND SHE WAS YOUR *GRANDMOTHER*. I WAS VERY LUCKY TO FIND HER IN THOSE TANGLED WOODS, BUT DID A TREE *ACTUALLY* SPEAK TO ME?



DID IT, GRANDPA DEZI? CAN YOU *HEAR* THE *TREES*... TOO?

OH... OH! GRACE, YES, I DID, AT LEAST THAT ONE OAK, ONCE, ON THAT DARK, DESPERATE NIGHT. DID THEY SPEAK TO YOU THE NIGHT YOU WERE...



NOT *THAT* NIGHT, BUT THEY DO AND MISS ARROW AND SOMETIMES ANIMALS AND EVEN SOME ROCKS, BUT THE *ROCKS* ARE ALWAYS SO *SERIOUS!*

EVER SINCE NANA--



OH. NO.

NANA? NANA. WHAT DID *SHE* DO, GRACE?



PLEASE, GRACE,
YOU KNOW WE DON'T
KEEP ANY SECRETS
BETWEEN US.

IT'S NOT A
SECRET, NANA
SAID IT'S A
SURPRISE FOR
MOMMY...



WHAT IS THIS
SURPRISE,
AND WHEN DID
THIS START?

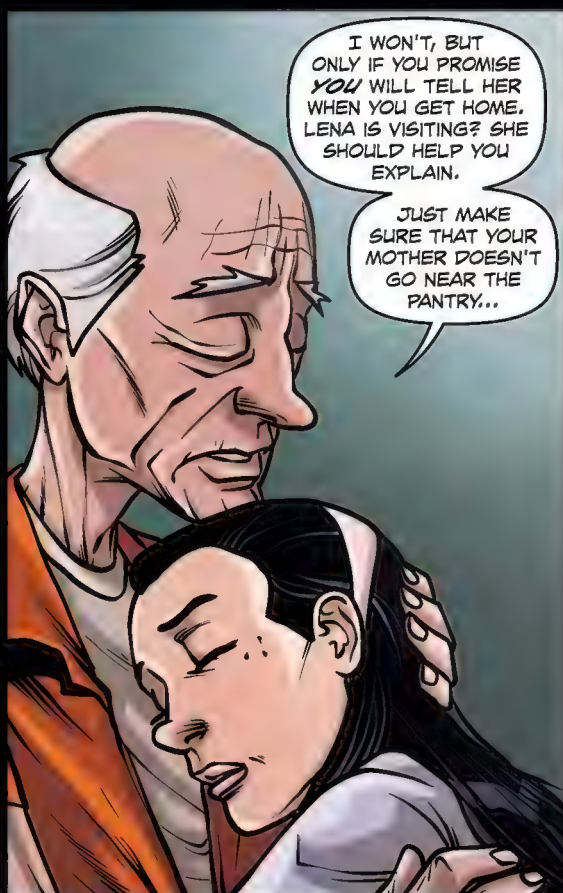
SOON AFTER
DADDY LEFT, NANA
AND I WERE PLAYING
OUTSIDE, AND SHE ASKED
IF I WANTED TO TRY
TO DO SOMETHING
SPECIAL, A *SURPRISE*
FOR MOMMY.



MOMMY WAS
SAD, AND I THOUGHT
A *SURPRISE* WOULD MAKE
HER HAPPY, BUT WE KEPT
PRACTICING, AND NANA
KEPT SAYING WE WERE
ALMOST READY!

IT'S OKAY,
PRECIOUS, YOU
HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING
WRONG, BUT LENA, YOUR
NANA, SHE KNOWS
BETTER.

WHAT SHOULD
I DO, GRANDPA
DEZI? ARE YOU
GOING TO TELL
MOMMY?



I WON'T, BUT
ONLY IF YOU PROMISE
YOU WILL TELL HER
WHEN YOU GET HOME.
LENA IS VISITING? SHE
SHOULD HELP YOU
EXPLAIN.

JUST MAKE
SURE THAT YOUR
MOTHER DOESN'T
GO NEAR THE
PANTRY...



CLAUDIA MAKES SUCH A DELICIOUS APPLE PIE! PITY, THE STAFF TAKES THE WEEKENDS OFF. JUST DES... MR. FITZGERALD AND I HERE ON A SATURDAY, USUALLY.

IT'S SO NICE TO HAVE YOU HOME, AUTUMN... AMANDA, I MEAN, AND GRACE.

WE LOVE OUR VISITS, GRANDPA.



THAT'S PRETTY, DID YOU DRAW THAT YOURSELF?

DRAW WHAT, DEAR?

THE DESIGN THERE, BY YOUR EYE.

GRACE, DON'T BE IMPOLITE. I'M SORRY, MYRTLE...



MAYBE SOME DUST OR SUCH, I WAS CLEANING MY ROOM EARLIER. I APOLOGIZE.

NO REASON TO APOLOGIZE. I DIDN'T SEE ANYTHING AMISS.

BUT...



GRACE, WANT TO GO SEE QUAKERS AND SWEETIE? TAKE SOME OF THE TOMATOES WITH US?

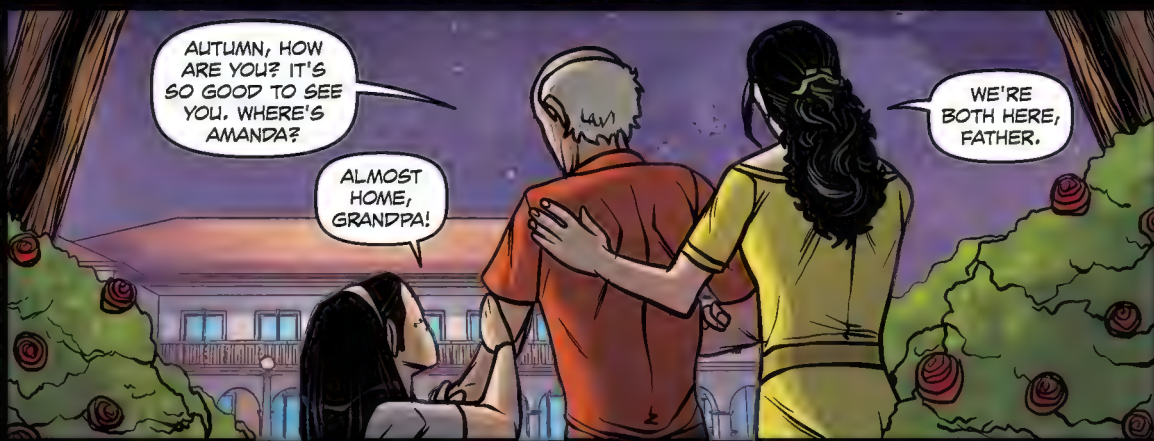
YES, GRANDPA DEZI! RIGHT AFTER DISHES!



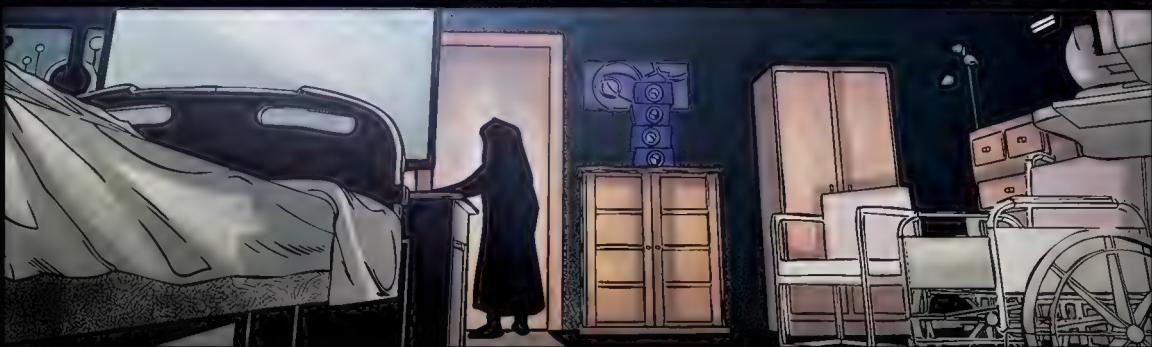
NONSENSE! I'LL CLEAN UP HERE. YOU THREE GO ENJOY THE SUNSET.

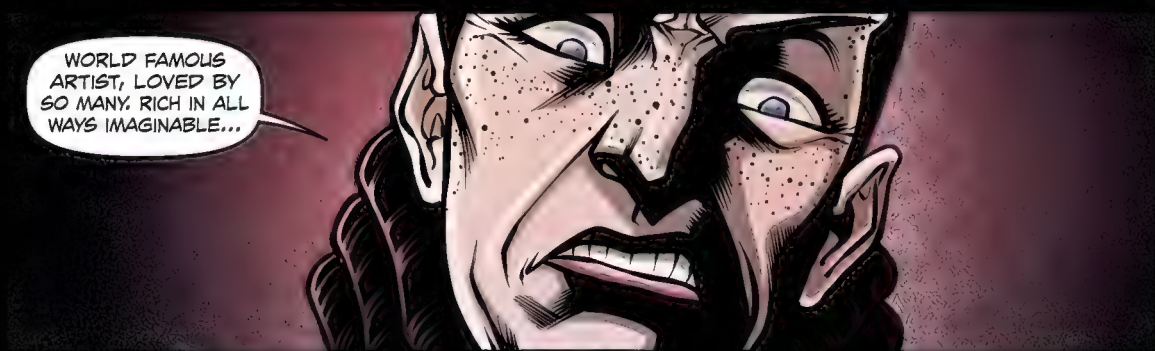
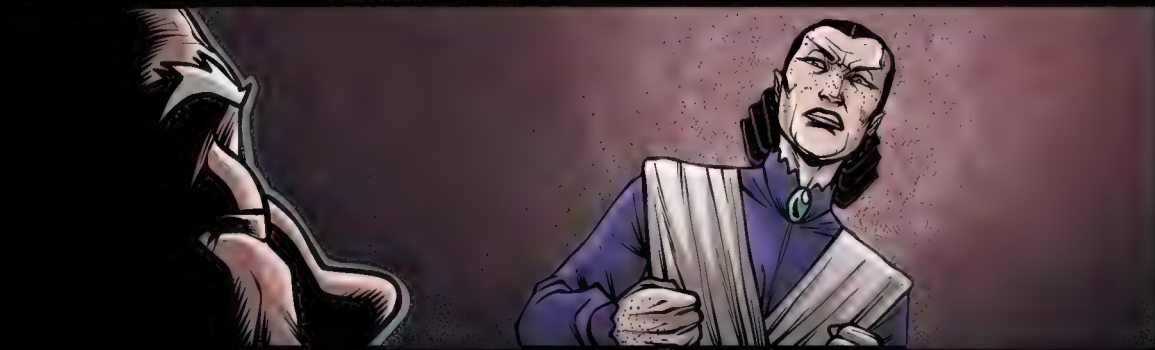
REMEMBER, MR. FITZGERALD GOES TO BED VERY EARLY.

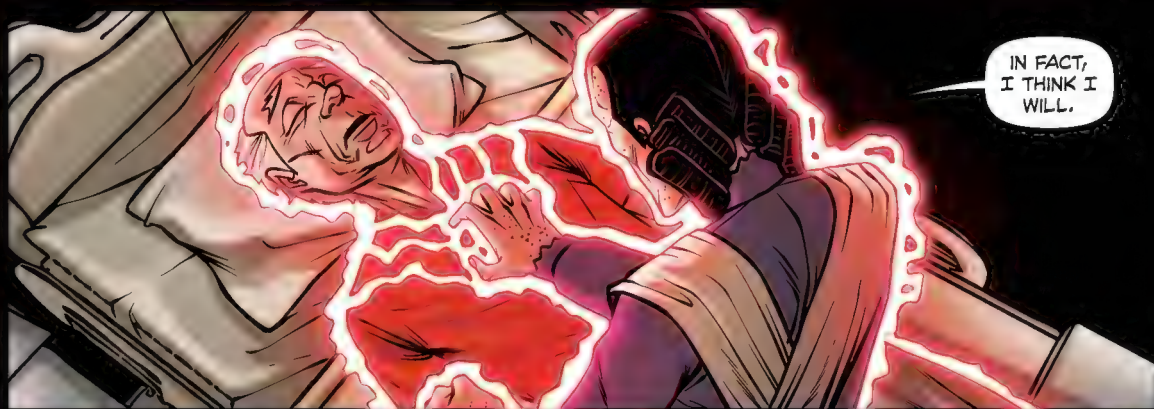
THANK YOU, MISS YODER.



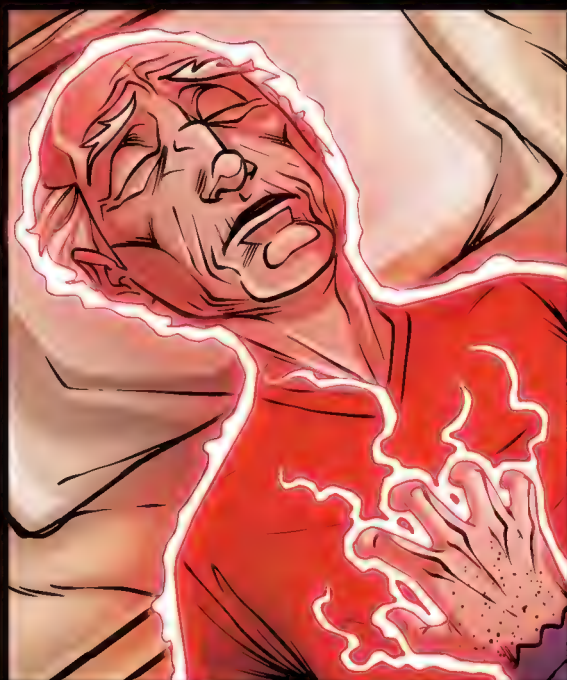








IN FACT,
I THINK I
WILL.





WHO?
WHAT ARE
YOU?



MY! SO
POWERFUL,
MAYBE I'D RATHER
BE *YOU* FOR
A WHILE.



HA HA HA!
YES, I MUST
HAVE YOUR STRENGTH.
NO ONE WILL
MISS YOU.



I IMAGINE
YOU'VE ALWAYS
BEEN ALONE.

ALONE...
JUST LIKE
ME...

NOT ALONE

WHA?!



THE END

CHAPTER 4



I don't know when you'll read this, Nick, but I wanted you to know what's happened since my last email.

Grace and I are fine, but I'm growing more concerned. I've reached out to our circle of friends, and if we need to move quickly, everything is in place. I don't want to do that to Grace unless there's no other choice.

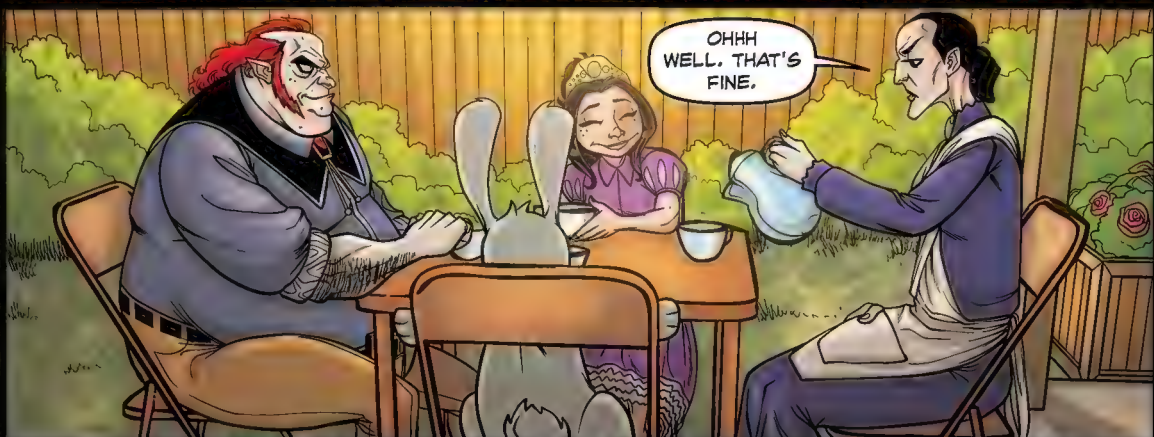
We're visiting Grandpa Desmond, and Saturday night his caretaker, Myrtle Yoder, disappeared. The next morning, a new nurse rang the bell at 7:45 who said she was Myrtle's replacement. I knocked on Ms. Yoder's door, and when she didn't answer, I opened it to find her room emptied of her personal belongings with a very brief note on the dresser apologizing for her sudden departure.

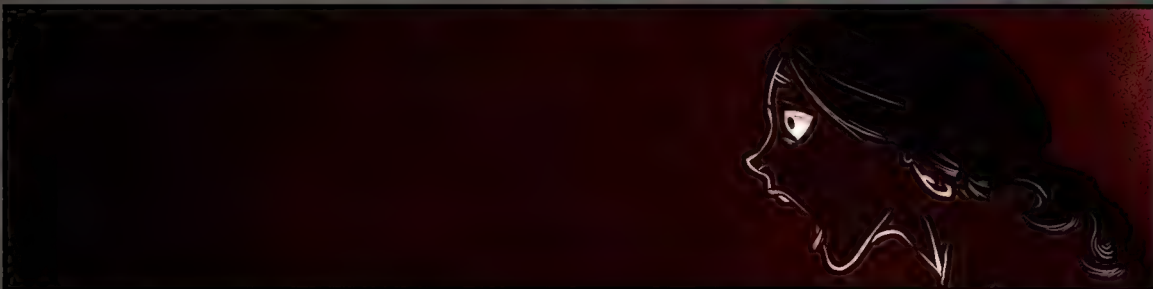
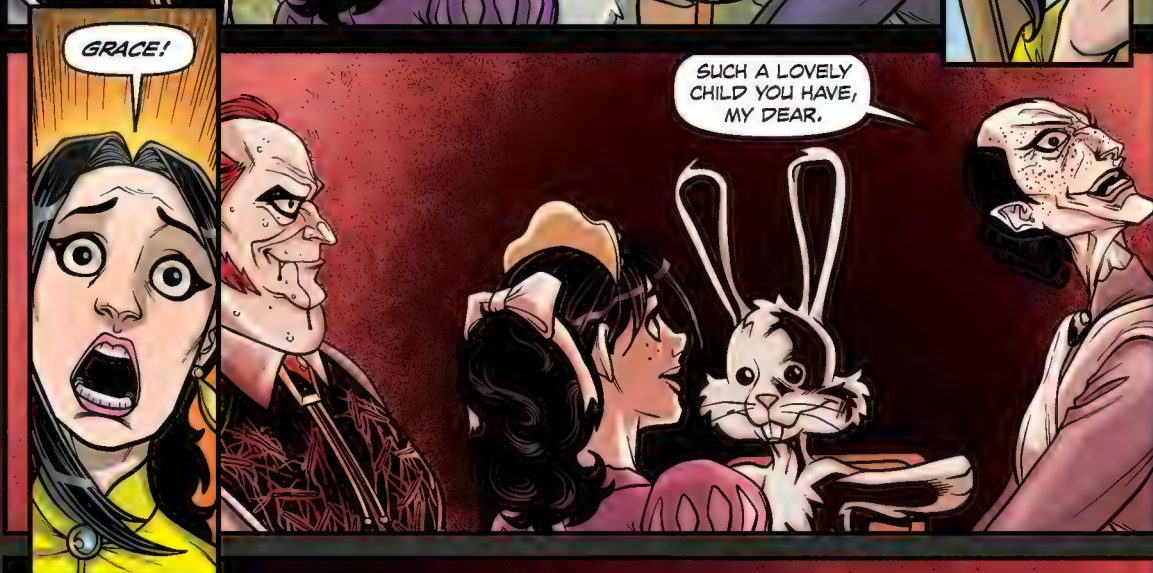
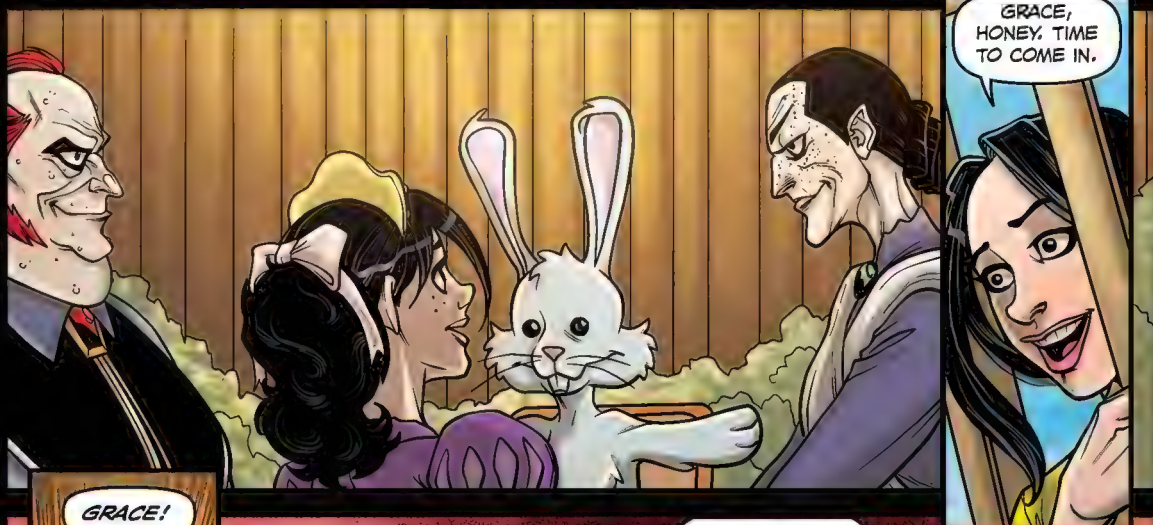
It's not all bad news, though. Grandpa Desmond has been amazing. He woke up that morning, and he reminded me of the man I knew twenty years ago when I was growing up! He was energetic and cogent the entire day, even after sundown! He stayed up late to beat Grace and me at Scrabble.

We'll be heading home this morning. Holiday is having a Labor Day celebration at the Valentine's, and I promised Grace we'd go. She says she has some things to talk about on the drive home, and I didn't push, so I'll tell you about that tomorrow.

Stay safe. We both miss you terribly.

Love,
Amanda





I HAD THAT DREAM THE NIGHT MYRTLE DISAPPEARED. SOMETHING IS VERY WRONG, LENA, AND YOU'RE A PART OF IT. GRACE TOLD ME ABOUT THE "SURPRISE."

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?

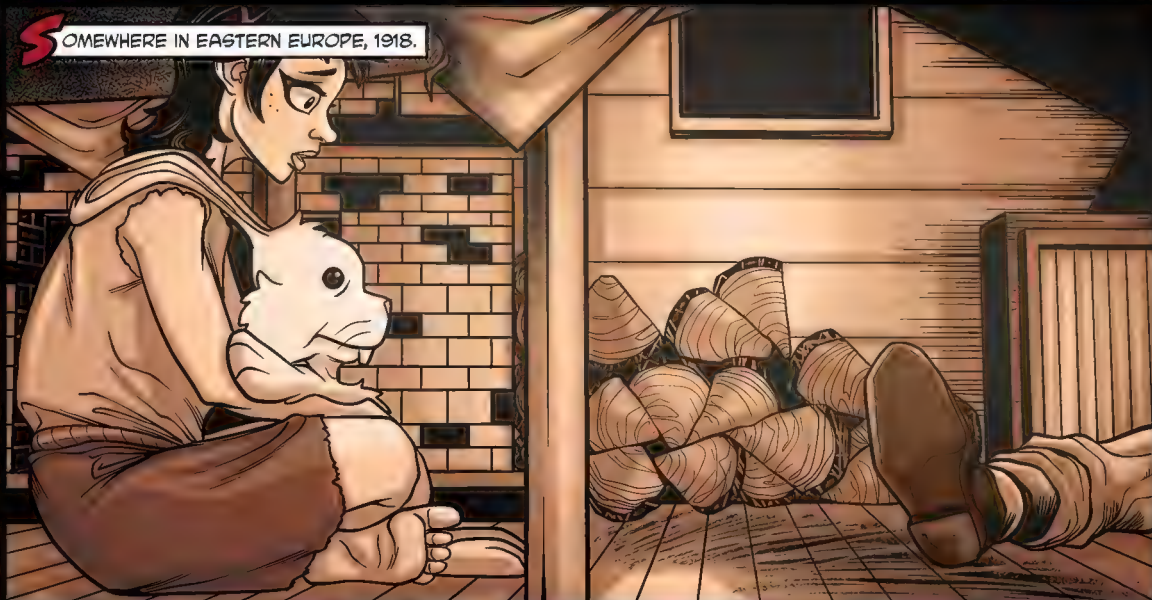
HE'S COMING FOR GRACE... SOMEONE WHO CAN'T BE STOPPED WITH SILVER BULLETS OR HOLY WATER. SHE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN STOP HIM.

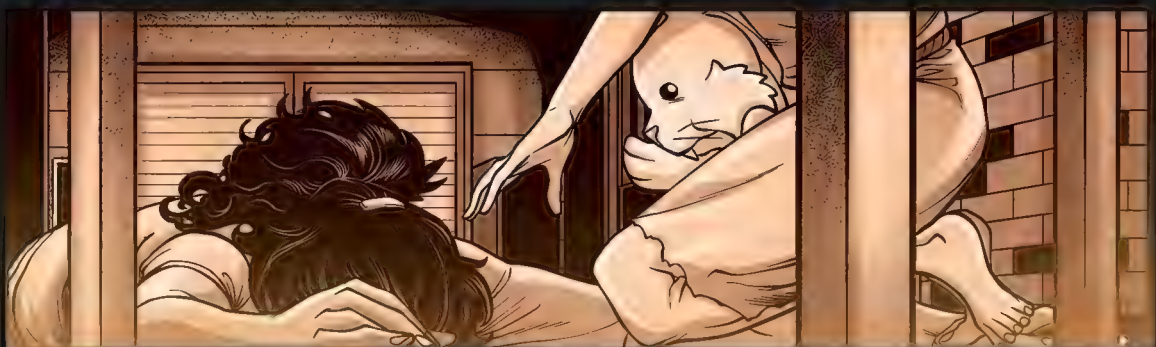
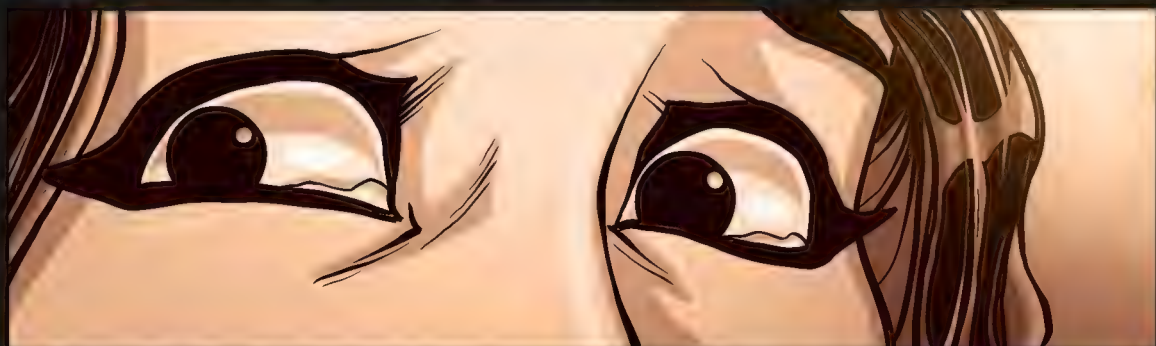
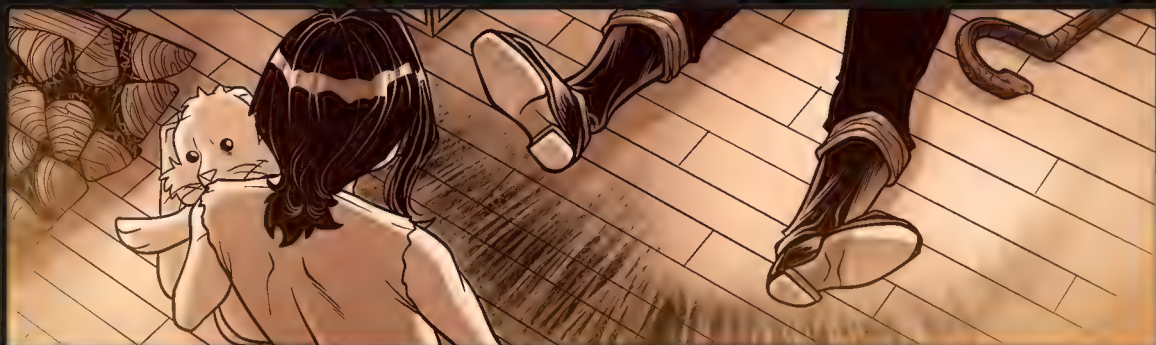
SO YOU...
SO YOU THINK...
TEACHING GRACE
MAGIC... OHHH,
LENA... YOU DON'T
GET TO MAKE
THAT CALL.

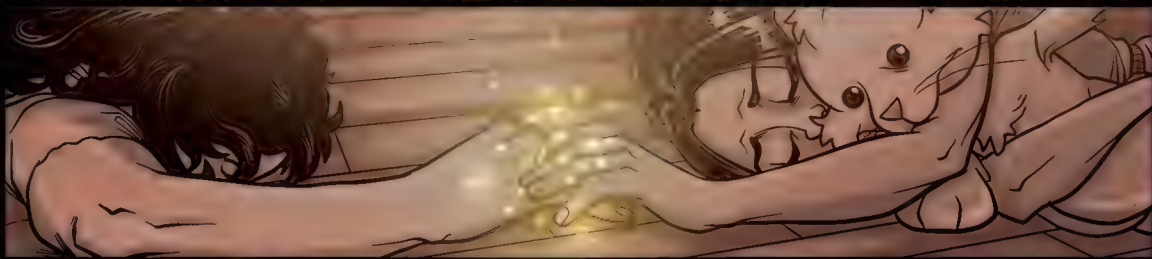
YOU CAN'T HIDE ANYMORE. I KNOW WHAT HAPPENED A CENTURY AGO. I KNOW WHY YOUR FAMILY LEFT US BEHIND.

THEN YOU ALSO KNOW MAGIC NEARLY KILLED US ALL, ONLY ONE LITTLE GIRL SURVIVED.

SOMEWHERE IN EASTERN EUROPE, 1918.







NADYA SAW HER PARENTS **MURDERED** WHEN SHE WAS GRACE'S AGE. WE MAY NEVER KNOW **HOW** SHE MADE IT TO AMERICA, BUT WE **DO** KNOW WHY, TO HIDE.

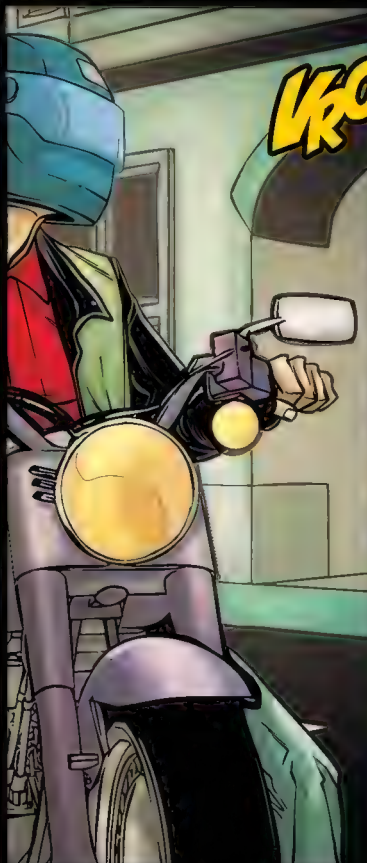
PART OF THAT HIDING WAS FORBIDDING HER DAUGHTER OR ANY OF HER DESCENDANTS... **WARNING** THEM NEVER TO USE MAGIC.

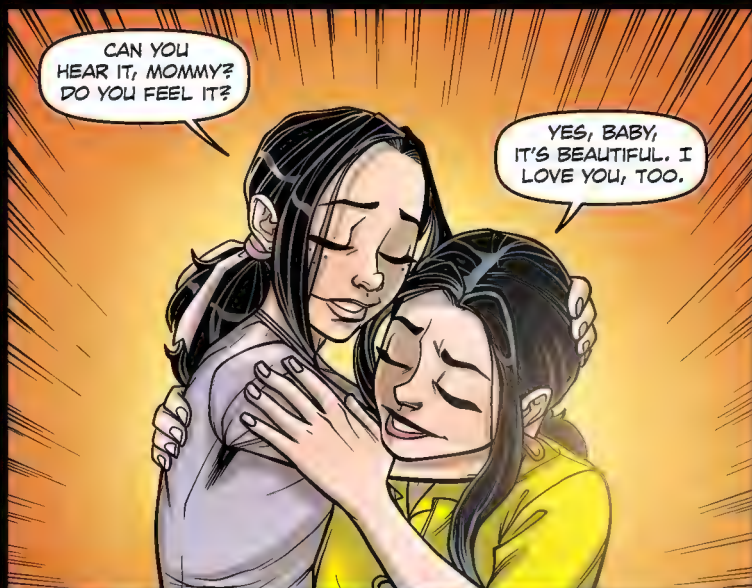
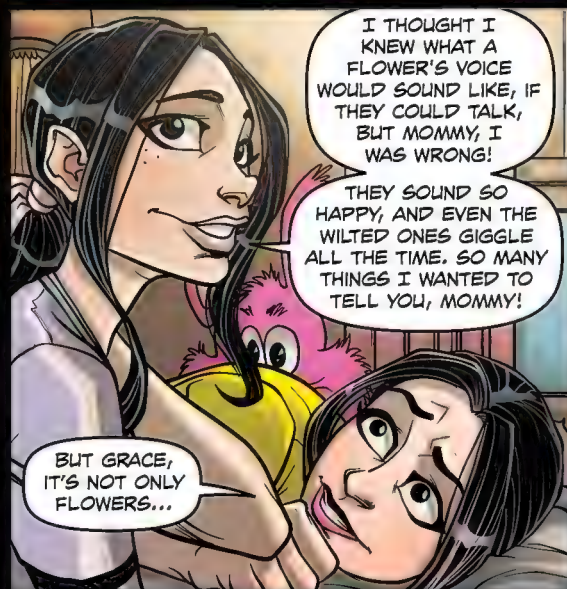
BUT YOU CAN'T HIDE **FOREVER**... NOT FROM THIS EVIL, EVEN WITHOUT **MAGIC**, YOUR PARENTS WERE--

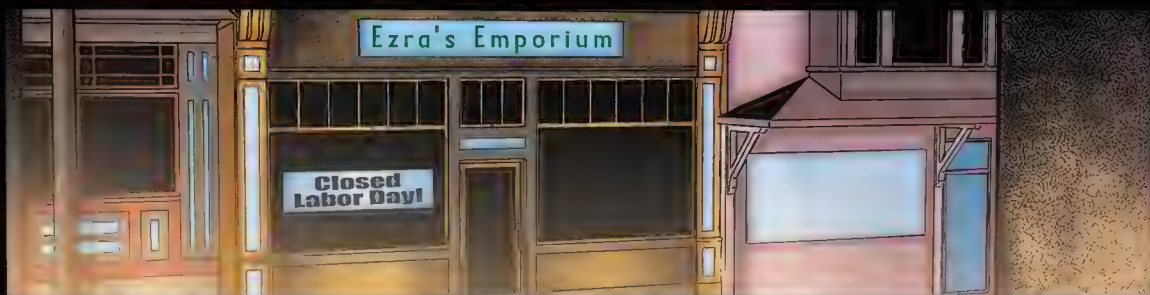
DON'T EVER TALK ABOUT MY PARENTS. AFTER GRACE HAD BEEN KIDNAPPED, I CALLED YOU FOR HELP. WE TALKED IN THIS KITCHEN. YOU SHOULD HAVE TOLD ME **THEN** WHAT YOU'D DONE. YOU CAUSED THIS.

AMANDA, DEAR. I'M SORRY, BUT IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE.

YES, IT IS. YOU NEED TO LEAVE. NOW.









THIS SPELL IS AS **INELEGANT** AS IT IS **EFFECTIVE**. YOU DID THIS? **ALONE?**

I DID... NOTHING FANCY, BUT IT **CAUGHT YOU!**

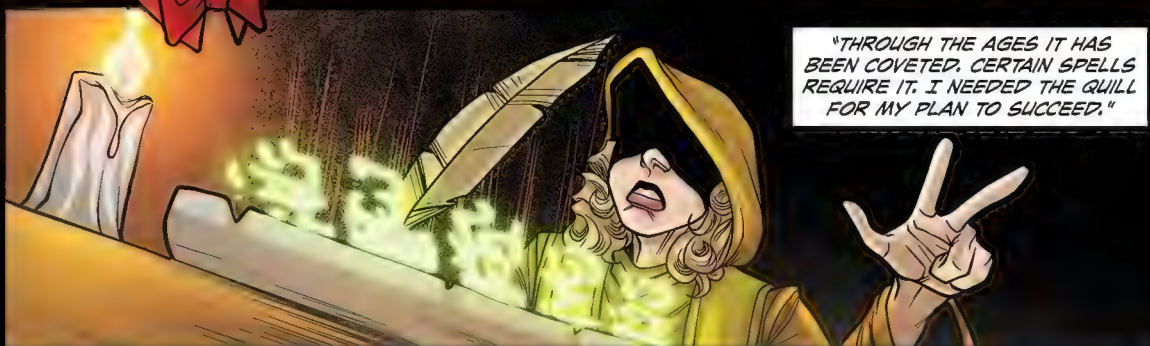


THERE WAS A SURGE OF **POWER**. YOU HAVE A LITTLE GIRL TO THANK FOR YOUR SUCCESS MORE THAN YOUR CLEVERNESS.

EITHER WAY, I GOT YOU! SO TELL ME WHY YOU STOLE THE **QUILL**. WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT IT?



THE **QUILL**? IT'S ONLY A **FEATHER** FROM THE AZTEC GOD, QUETZALCOATL. UNIQUE IN THE WORLD AND INCOMPREHENSIBLY POWERFUL.

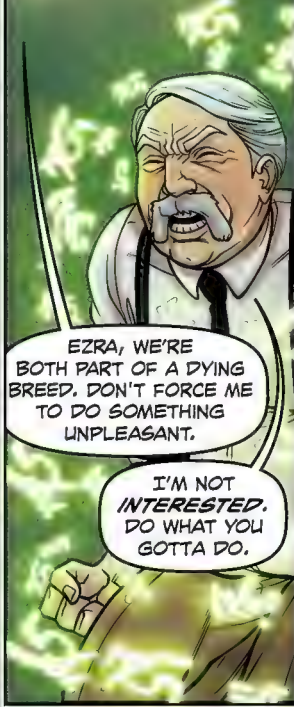


"THROUGH THE AGES IT HAS BEEN COVETED. CERTAIN SPELLS REQUIRE IT. I NEEDED THE **QUILL** FOR MY PLAN TO SUCCEED."



YOU COULD BE A GREAT HELP, TOO, EZRA. THERE IS A SIGNING BONUS. I COULD RESTORE YOUR YOUTH, OR IS THERE SOMETHING ELSE YOU DESIRE?







THERE! ALL THE BEAUTIFUL DECORATIONS YOU MADE ARE IN PLACE, MY LOVE.



PERFECT, BABY! I'M GLAD WE DECIDED TO HOST THIS SOIRÉE, AND THAT THE MAYOR APPROVED.



MILADY, WHO COULD DENY YOUR CHARMS?

SIR, RONDO, YOU SHAMELESS FLATTERER! ONLY MAYOR ALDERMAN HIMSELF COULD CHALLENGE YOUR SKILLS.



BUT ARE ALL THE FOOD TRUCKS REALLY **NECESSARY**, HONEY?

NOT EVERYONE ENJOYS OUR LIMITED MENU, RONDO. **SOME** PEOPLE STILL GOBBLE UP **FRIED FOODS** AND **HIGH-FRUCTOSE CORN SYRUP**.



ALL THE SWEETNESS I COULD **EVER** DESIRE IS RIGHT HERE.

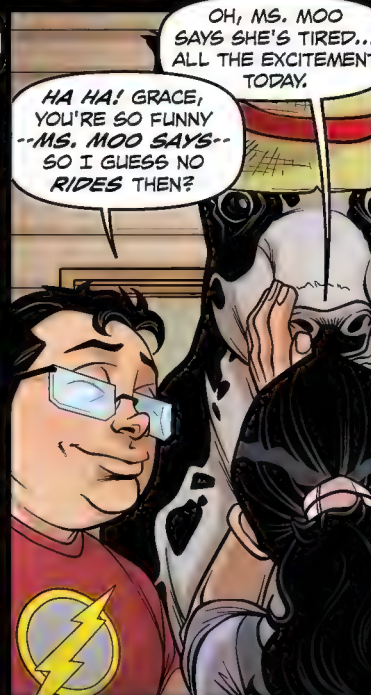
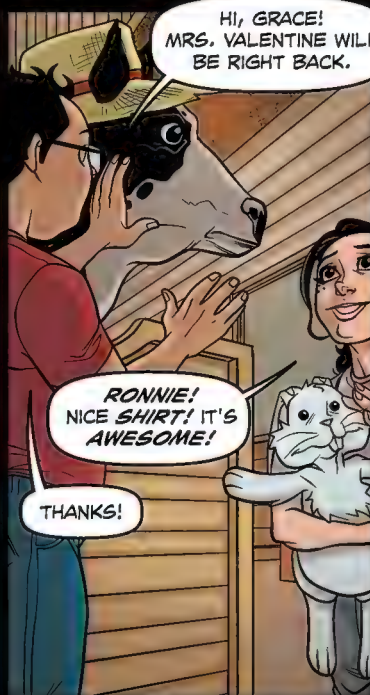
MMMMMMMM...



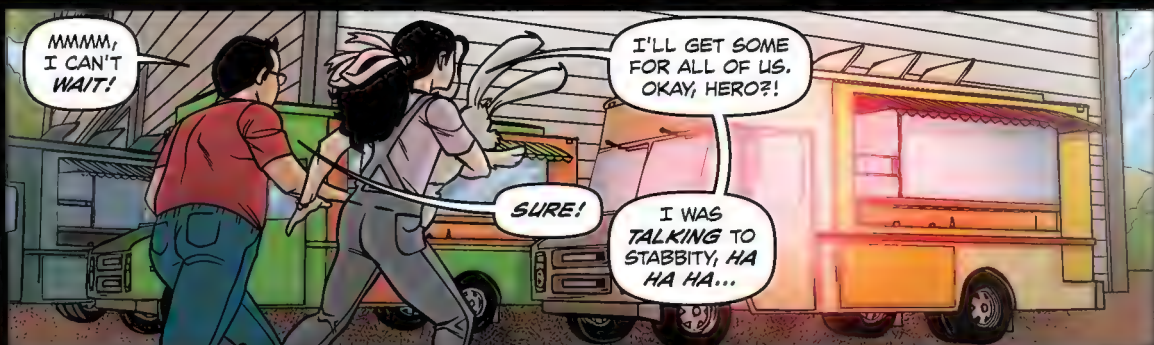
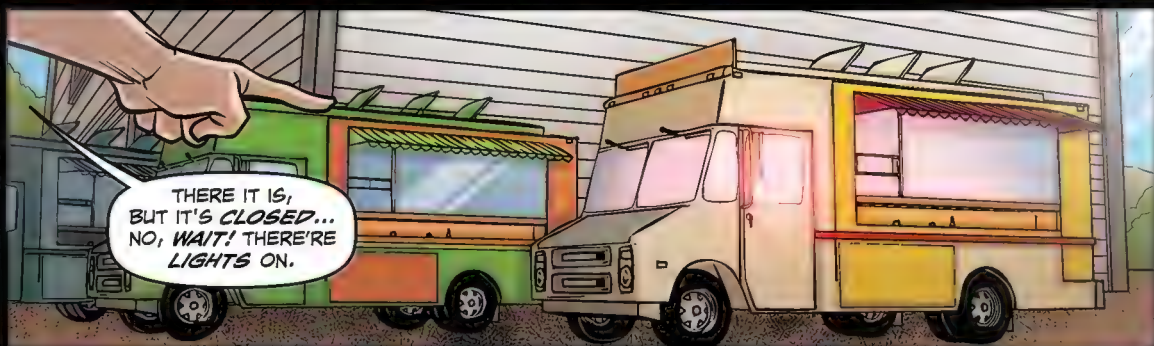
...BUT RIGHT NOW THERE ARE CHORES TO DO, LOVE.

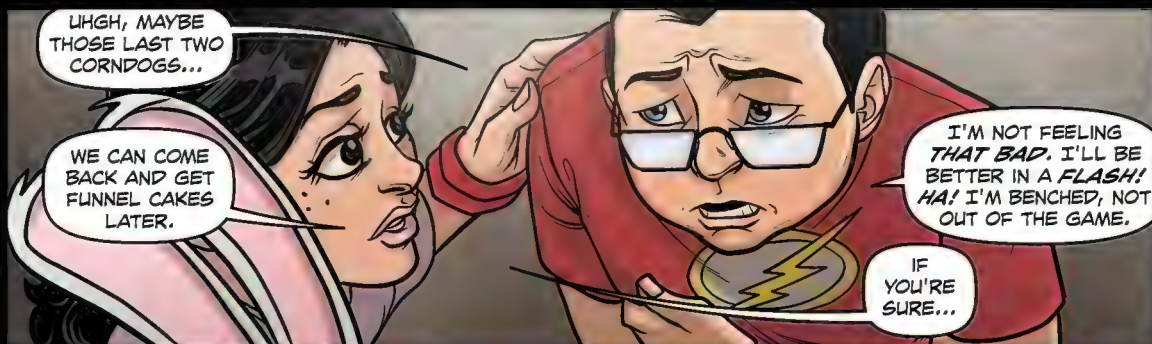
YES, MILADY!













THEY SMELL AMAZING! THANK YOU FOR LETTING US SEE HOW THEY'RE MADE!

COME ON IN. I'M JUST PULLING THEM OUT OF THE OIL.



OH, GRACE, YOU LOOK LIKE YOU FEEL *AWFUL*!

UHHRRR--

HOW DO YOU KNOW My--



YOU'RE A VERY IMPORTANT, VERY SPECIAL, LITTLE GIRL, EVEN IF YOU DON'T KNOW IT.

STABBITY...

HE'S SOMETHING ELSE ALTOGETHER.



WHAT WAS IT GLYPH SAID? HIS ACCENT IS SO DISTRACTING, BUT IT WAS IMPORTANT, AT LEAST TO HIM. BUNNY FIRST, OR THE GIRL FIRST?

I CAN'T REMEMBER... HE WENT ON AND ON.



GREED, HE WAS USELESS! AND *ENVY*, SHE WAS UTTERLY DISAPPOINTING! *GLUTTONY*, BE SURE TO... BLAH-BLAH-BLAH... TEA AND CRUMPETS... *BLAH BLAH*.

AS LONG AS I EAT THEM BOTH, WHY WOULD THE ORDER MATTER?

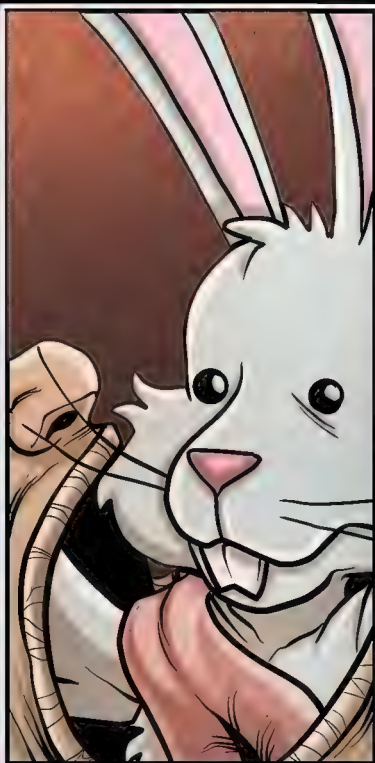


BUNNY IS CLOSER, I'M HUNGRY, BUNNY IT *IS*.

NO... DON'T... *STABBITY*.



STABBITY!



DON'T...
PLEASE.



SURPRISINGLY, NOT
BAD. I THOUGHT I WAS A
CHAMPION EATER BEFORE, HA!
I WASN'T KIDDING ABOUT EATING
ALL THE FUNNEL CAKES, BUT I
DID LEAVE OUT THE PART ABOUT
EATING THE PREVIOUS OWNER
OF THIS TRUCK.



YOU'LL BE BACK
WITH YOUR BUNNY SOON.
IT'S NOTHING PERSONAL,
JUST A JOB.

DON'T DO IT...
THERE MUST BE
ANOTHER WAY.



I'M AFRAID I
HAVE NO CHOICE,
GRACE. YOU'RE WASTING
YOUR TIME PLEADING
WITH ME.

I'M NOT
TALKING TO YOU.
I'M TALKING TO
STABBITY.

ARGH! WHAT'S
HAPPENING?!



AHHHHHRR!



IF THE OTHERS
ARE PART OF YOU NOW,
I'M NOT AFRAID.

I KNOW,
MOMMY SAYS
SOMETIMES
THERE'S NO
OTHER CHOICE,
BUT...

WAS *THIS*
THE ONLY
WAY?

STABBITY?



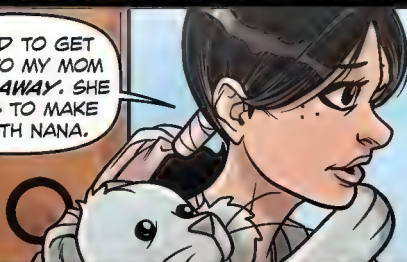
WOW! I
FEEL ALL
BETTER,
JUST LIKE
THAT!



THAT'S
AWESOME! THE MAN'S
NOT MAKING ANY MORE
FUNNEL CAKES, HE'S
GONE. WE SHOULD
GO, TOO.



I NEED TO GET
BACK TO MY MOM
RIGHT AWAY. SHE
NEEDS TO MAKE
UP WITH NANA.



WHAT'S SO
URGENT? I
THOUGHT WE
WERE HAVING A
GOOD TIME.



WE **ARE!** IT'S JUST
FAMILY STUFF. BUT WE
CAN LOOK AROUND ON
THE WAY BACK.

CAN WE AT LEAST
GET SOME MORE
COTTON CANDY?!

AWESOME!
WAIT A MINUTE...
ARE YOU SAYING
I HOGGED THE
LAST ONE?

SURE! BUT I'LL
BUY **EACH OF US**
ONE THIS TIME.

I'M NOT
=SNORT= SAYING
ANYTHING!

HAHAHAHA!



HAHAHAHA!

END

CHAPTER 5





IT LOOKS SO **AWESOME!** YOUR **GRANDMOTHER** CUT IT? SHAKE YOUR HEAD AGAIN!

HA HA, NO MORE, RONNIE. I'M GETTING DIZZY. YES, NANA DID IT LAST NIGHT.



RONNIE, WE NEED TO TALK. IT'S REALLY IMPORTANT. WE'RE BEST FRIENDS, RIGHT?

YES, GRACE. YOU'RE AWESOME.



LET'S TALK UNDER THE TREE... TOO MANY OTHER KIDS PLAYING AROUND HERE.

O-O-KAY, **SURE!**



RONNIE. I...

GRACE, WHAT IS IT? WHAT'S **WRONG?**

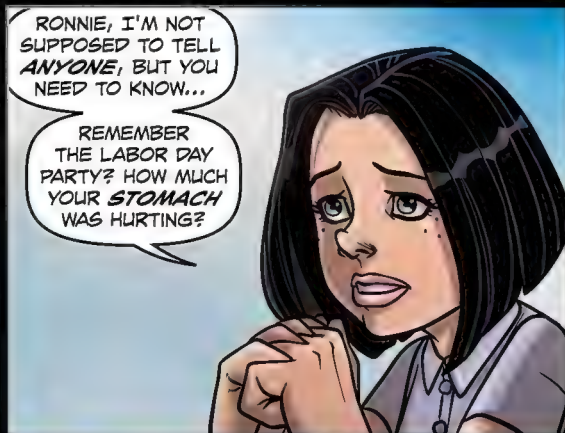


WE'RE LIKE FAMILY, RIGHT? WE TELL EACH OTHER JUST ABOUT EVERYTHING?

FAMILY? SURE WE ARE, GRACE!

SO I CAN TELL YOU STUFF THAT'S ONLY FOR FAMILY, RIGHT?

SURE, I GUESS SO...

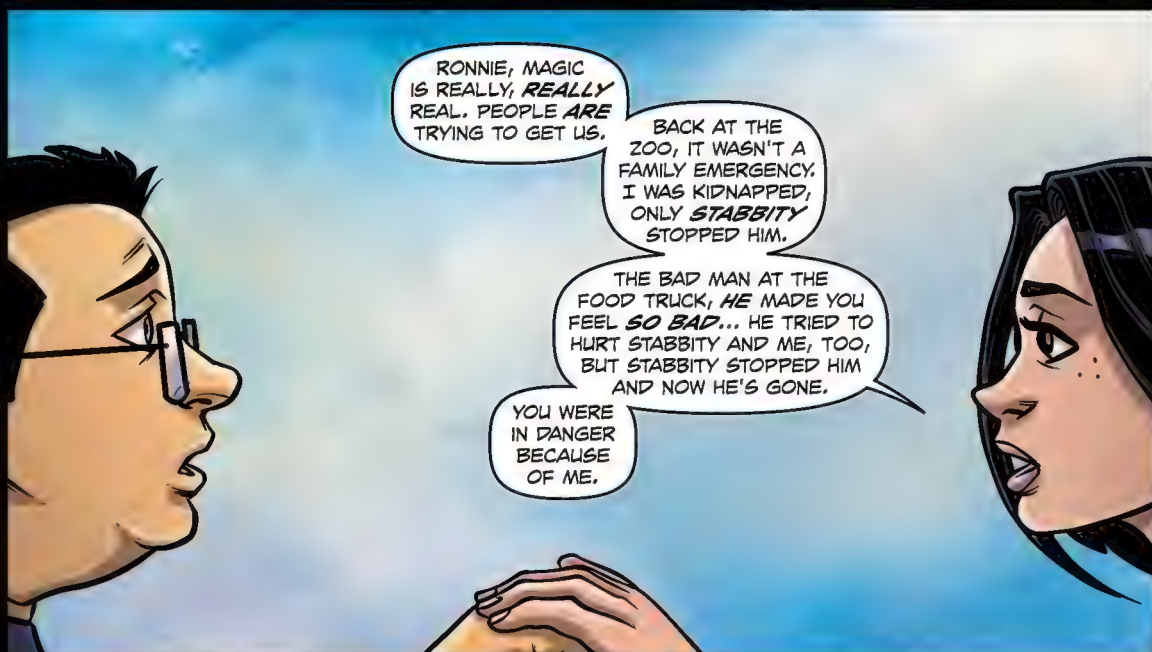


RONNIE, I'M NOT SUPPOSED TO TELL **ANYONE**, BUT YOU NEED TO KNOW...

REMEMBER THE LABOR DAY PARTY? HOW MUCH YOUR **STOMACH** WAS HURTING?



THAT WAS **NOTHING**. IT ONLY LASTED A **MINUTE**!



RONNIE, MAGIC IS REALLY, **REALLY** REAL. PEOPLE **ARE** TRYING TO GET US.

BACK AT THE ZOO, IT WASN'T A FAMILY EMERGENCY. I WAS KIDNAPPED, ONLY **STABBITY** STOPPED HIM.

THE BAD MAN AT THE FOOD TRUCK, **HE** MADE YOU FEEL **SO BAD**... HE TRIED TO HURT STABBITY AND ME, TOO, BUT STABBITY STOPPED HIM AND NOW HE'S GONE.

YOU WERE IN DANGER BECAUSE OF ME.



GRACE, WHOA, THAT'S A **LOT**. YOU WERE KIDNAPPED? ARE YOU OKAY? WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME?



RONNIE, I'M OKAY, BUT YOU WERE HURT BECAUSE OF ME... BECAUSE YOU'RE MY **FRIEND**.



GRACE, I'M YOUR BEST FRIEND, AND **YOU'RE** MY... BEST FRIEND.

MAYBE... WE SHOULDN'T BE... RONNIE.



NO. IF YOU'RE IN TROUBLE, YOU NEED YOUR *BEST* FRIEND. THAT'S *ME*.



BUT, RONNIE...

GRACE, PLEASE, ANYBODY WANTS TO MESS WITH YOU, THEY GOTTA COME THROUGH ME.



I'M YOUR *HERO!*

RONNIE!

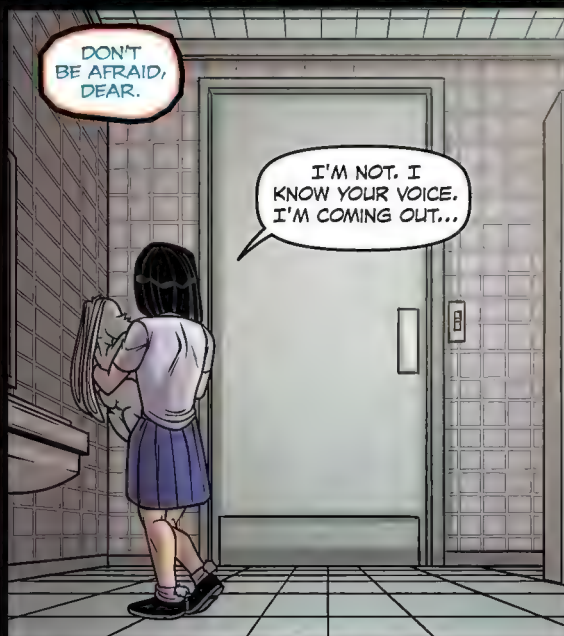
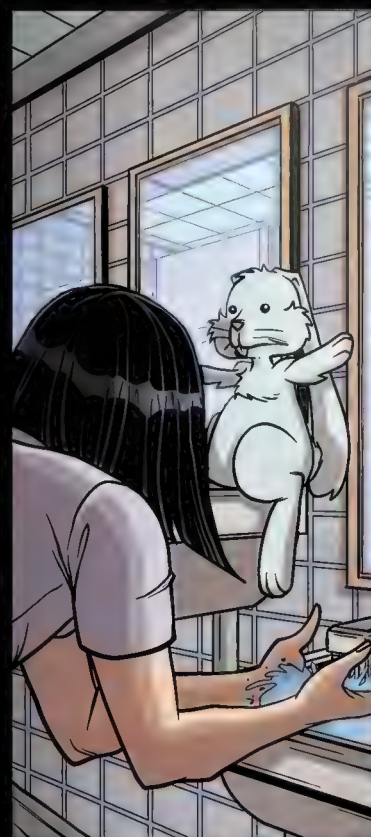


HERO?!
HA!











UNCLE EZRA!
YOU LOOK HAPPY,
I'M SO GLAD. DO YOU
REMEMBER WHAT
HAPPENED?



YES, GRACE,
I KNOW I DIED. I'M
NOT ONE OF THOSE
CONFUSED *SPIRITS*.
THANK YOU, THOUGH,
SWEETIE.



SWEETIE,
YOU WON'T BE
ABLE TO...

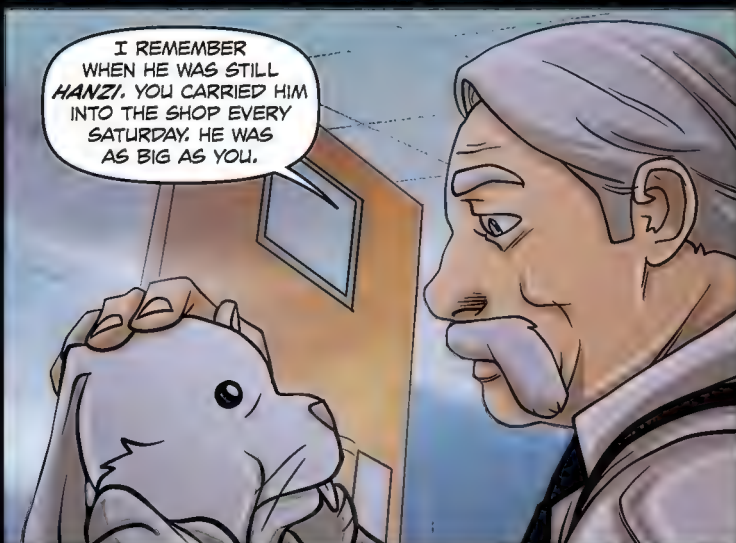


...TOUCH ME, BUT...
OF COURSE, YOU CAN. I
KEEP FORGETTING WHO
YOU'LL *BE* ONE DAY.

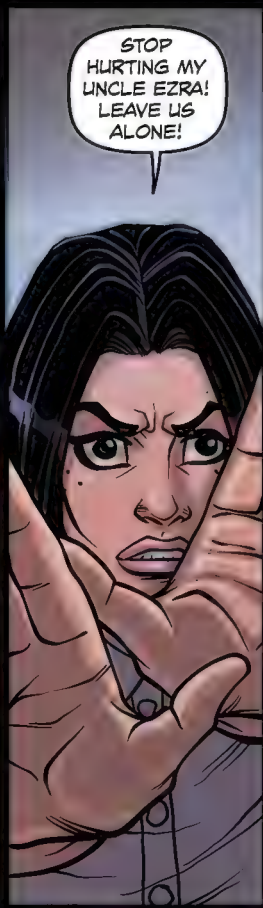


MISS
ARROW'S SAID
THAT BEFORE, TOO.
WHAT DO YOU
MEAN?

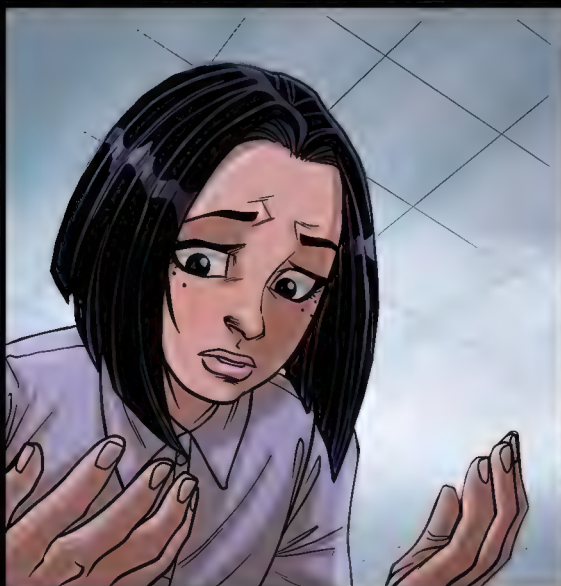
IT'S NOT MY
PLACE TO SAY, GRACE.
BESIDES, I ONLY HAVE A
LITTLE TIME, AND THERE ARE
SOME VERY *IMPORTANT*
THINGS WE NEED TO
TALK ABOUT.











UNCLE EZRA!



GRACE, SWEETIE, ARE YOU *OKAY*? THAT MUST HAVE BEEN SCARY.

THIS PLACE, IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN SAFE. YOU TAPPED INTO THE ENERGIES HERE BECAUSE YOU WERE AFRAID, NOT FOR YOURSELF, BUT FOR *ME*.

THANK YOU, SWEETIE. I WOULD HAVE BEEN *GONE* FOR GOOD.

GRACE, YOU BETTER GET BACK. I *CAN'T* KEEP THE *DOORWAY* OPEN MUCH LONGER.



UNCLE EZRA, THAT BAD MAN... WHY WAS HE HURTING YOU? ARE YOU SAFE NOW? WHERE *IS* THIS PLACE?

SWEETIE, I'M *SAFE*, THANKS TO YOU. I'LL TELL YOU MORE NEXT TIME.



WHEN ARE YOU--



I MISSED IT BEFORE, BUT I CAN SEE WHY. HE'S **ENCHANTED**. IT'S A **SHIELD** OF SORTS, MASKING HIS POWER, BUT NOW, IT'S LIKE THE BARRIER HAS A TINY PINPRICK.

I CAN SEE ENOUGH TO KNOW THERE'RE MAGICAL ENERGIES INSIDE, BUT THAT'S ALL.

IS IT DANGEROUS?

INCREDIBLY. GRACE TOLD US THAT, BUT IS IT DANGEROUS TO GRACE, OR US? I CAN'T SAY.

YOU'VE SAID **ENOUGH**. IF THERE'S **ANY** CHANCE IT ENDANGERS MY DAUGHTER...

WHAT, MOMMY? STABBITY'S **FAMILY**, RIGHT?

GRACE, I TOLD YOU TO WAIT UPSTAIRS UNTIL WE CALLED YOU.

STABBITY **SAVED** ME, MOMMY. I THOUGHT I COULD HELP ANSWER QUESTIONS. NO SECRETS BETWEEN FAMILY, RIGHT, MOMMY?

NO SECRETS. IT'S JUST... MOMMY HAS TO PROTECT US, GRACE. SOMETIMES IT'S HARD TO EXPLAIN, BUT WHATEVER I DO, IT'S TO MAKE SURE WE'RE SAFE, **YOU'RE SAFE**.

HE **SAVED** ME, MOMMY.



GRACE,
NOTHING IS
DECIDED.

DOES
STABBITY HAVE
ANYTHING TO SAY?

JUST NOW,
NANA. *STABBITY*
SAID.

HE'S
BACK.



GRACE, PLEASE TELL
YOUR MOM I SAID HELLO. HI,
MAGDALENA. I'M PUSHING MY
LUCK, BUT IT CAN'T WAIT.

THIS IS JUST AS MUCH
ABOUT YOUR BUNNY AS IT IS
YOUR FAMILY, GRACE. THE LAST
TIME *HE* TRIED TO DESTROY YOUR
FAMILY, *STABBITY* WAS THERE,
HANZI WAS THERE, THE BAD MAN.
YOU KNOW *GLYPH*, LENA. *GLYPH*
IS WORKING WITH *HIM*.

THIS HOUSE, THE
WARDS THAT PROTECT IT,
EVEN THE WOOD USED TO BUILD
IT, NOTHING TRULY EVIL COULD
INVADE AND SURVIVE. THIS *MUST*
REMAIN YOUR HAVEN.



HIS PLAN
HAS BEEN SET IN
MOTION, AND SO FAR
IT'S SUCCEEDING. GRACE,
SWEETIE. *YOU'RE*
THE KEY.

YOUR POTENTIAL IS
AMAZING, BUT RELY ON
YOUR HEART, NOT MAGIC,
WHEN THINGS LOOK
HOPELESS.



UNCLE EZRA,
YOU'RE GOING
AWAY FOR GOOD,
AREN'T YOU?



GRACE, PLEASE
TAKE YOUR MOTHER'S
HAND. SHE NEEDS TO
HEAR THIS, TOO.



EZRA! I'M
SO SORRY YOU WERE
CAUGHT UP IN THIS...

MANDY, DEAR,
THIS WASN'T YOUR
FAULT. I HAD SECRETS
OF MY OWN. THERE'S A
MAN WHO CAN HELP YOU,
A FRIEND OF MINE.

I
KNOW
WHO--

NO, MAGDALENA,
YOU DON'T... NOT THIS
FRIEND, SORRY.



GRACE, SWEETIE,
WHAT I TOLD YOU IS ONLY
FOR YOU AND YOUR MOTHER.
HE'S VERY SHY, AND HE'D BE
NERVOUS AROUND ANYBODY
BUT THE TWO OF YOU.



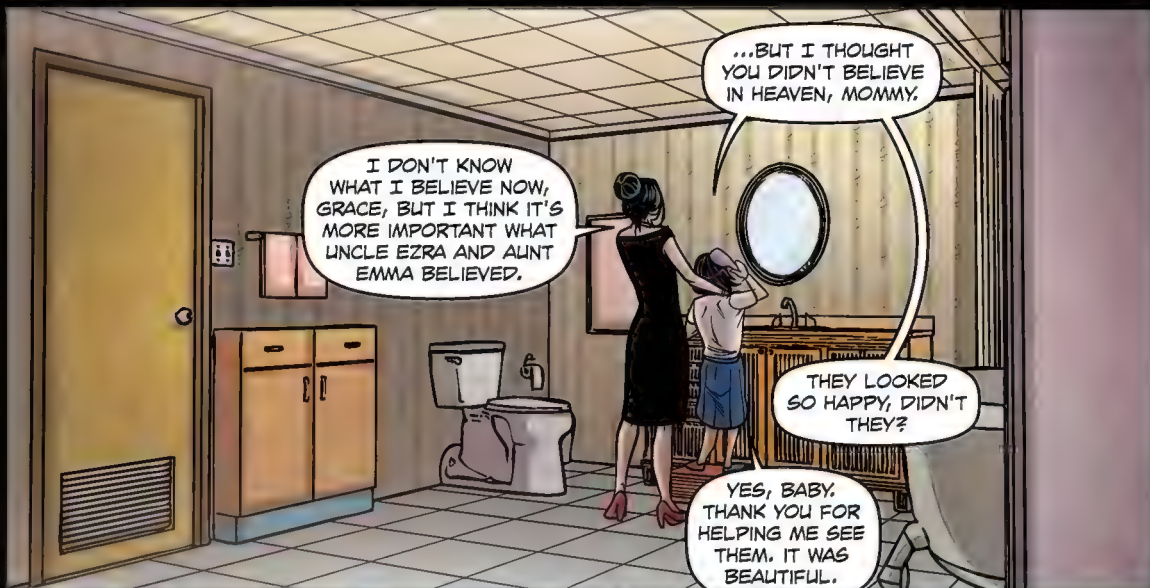
OH! THE DINNER
TONIGHT, MANDY, DRIVE
THE MUSTANG, OKAY?



LADIES, I WISH I
COULD HELP MORE, BUT I'M
AFRAID GLYPH'S SPELL TOOK
A LOT OUT OF ME.

BESIDES, I HAVE A LADY
OF MY OWN, AND SHE'S
BEEN WAITING SO PATIENTLY
THESE NINE LONG YEARS
WE'VE BEEN APART...





I DON'T KNOW WHAT I BELIEVE NOW, GRACE, BUT I THINK IT'S MORE IMPORTANT WHAT UNCLE EZRA AND AUNT EMMA BELIEVED.

...BUT I THOUGHT YOU DIDN'T BELIEVE IN HEAVEN, MOMMY.

THEY LOOKED SO HAPPY, DIDN'T THEY?

YES, BABY. THANK YOU FOR HELPING ME SEE THEM. IT WAS BEAUTIFUL.



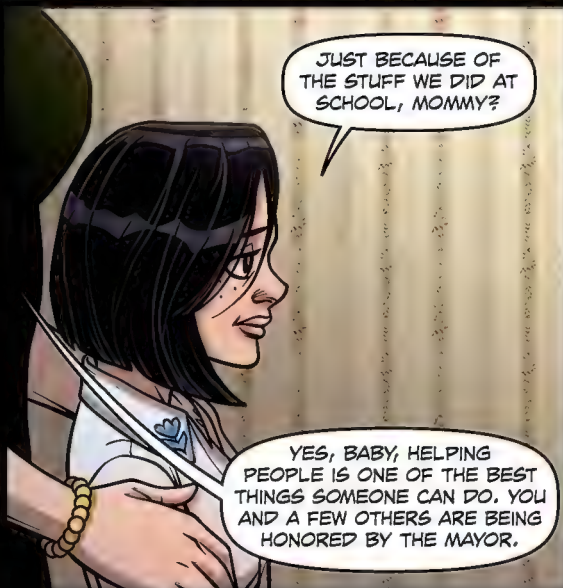
NANA DID AN AWESOME JOB, DIDN'T SHE, MOMMY?!

YES, AND I APPRECIATE BEING ASKED FOR MY OPINION... *FIRST*, THIS TIME.



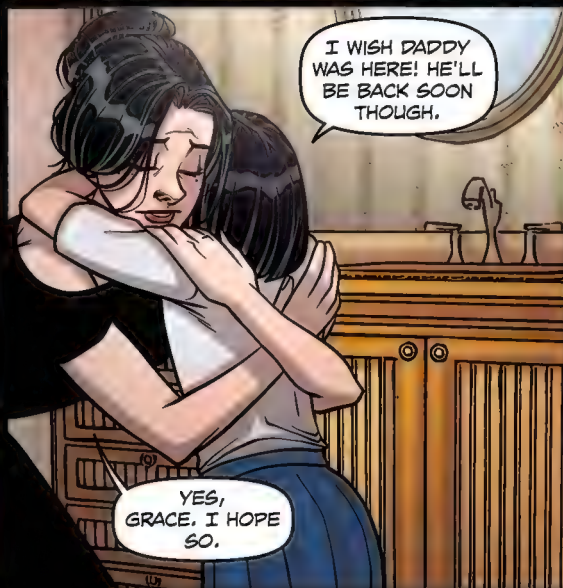
ARE YOU EXCITED BEING INVITED TO THE MAYOR'S HOUSE FOR DINNER? IT'S PRETTY SPECIAL.

SURE! I GUESS SO. IT'S *AWESOME*, RIGHT?



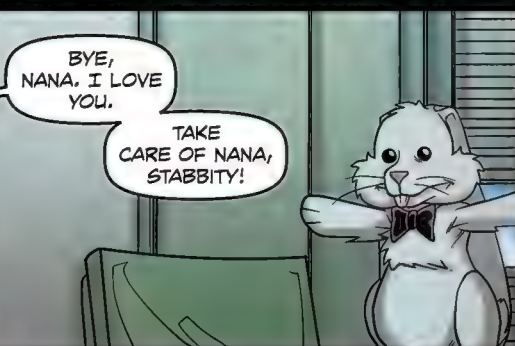
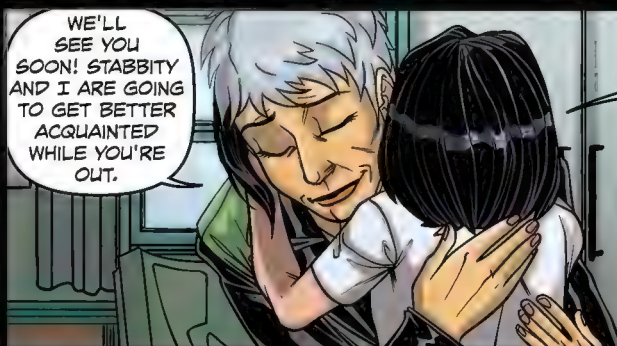
JUST BECAUSE OF THE STUFF WE DID AT SCHOOL, MOMMY?

YES, BABY, HELPING PEOPLE IS ONE OF THE BEST THINGS SOMEONE CAN DO. YOU AND A FEW OTHERS ARE BEING HONORED BY THE MAYOR.



I WISH DADDY WAS HERE! HE'LL BE BACK SOON THOUGH.

YES, GRACE, I HOPE SO.





WHERE'S THAT
MAN TAKING OUR
CAR, MOMMY?

HE'S A VALET, AND
HE'LL PARK IT FOR US.
IT'S SO WE DON'T HAVE
TO WALK AS FAR.

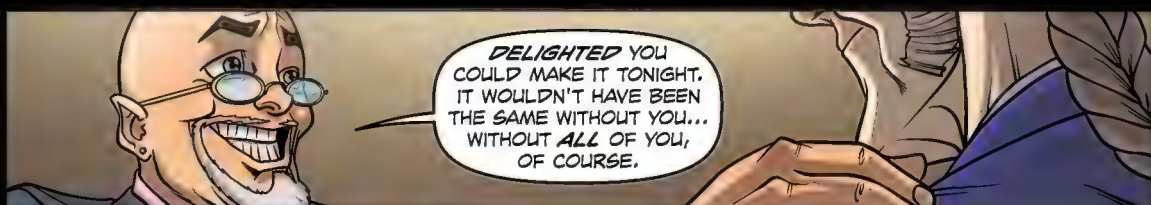


WELCOME,
LADIES. THE MAYOR
IS JUST AHEAD IN THE
STUDY, VISITING WITH A
COUPLE OF THE OTHER
GUESTS. DINNER WILL BE
SERVED PROMPTLY
AT 7:00.

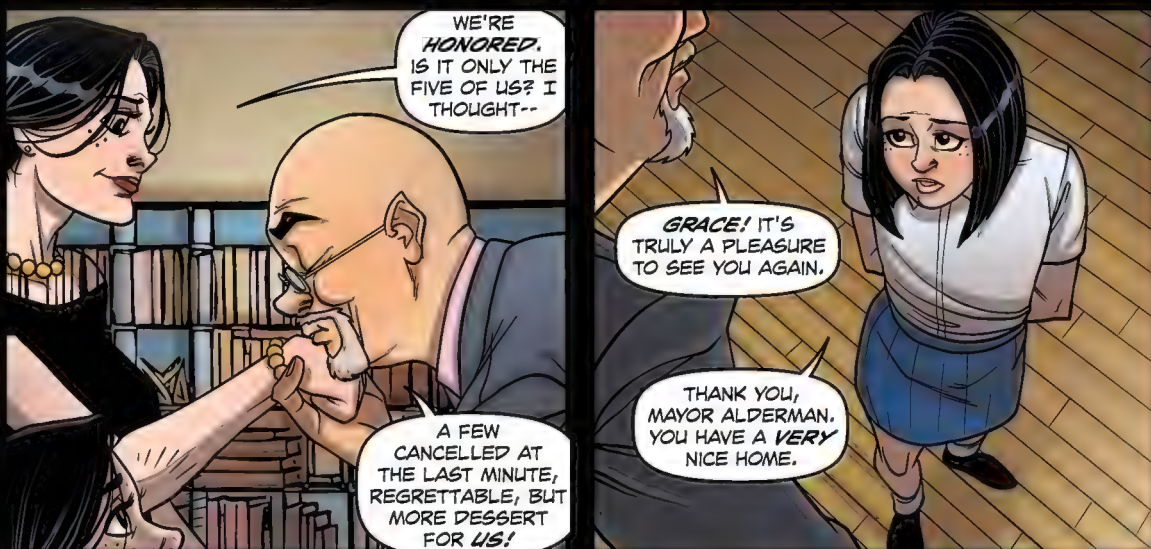
AMANDA!
GRACE! YOU BOTH
LOOK *BEAUTIFUL*.
ISN'T THIS PLACE
CRAZY?

YOU
LOOK SO...
COLORFUL!

MR.
VALENTINE!
THANK YOU.



DELIGHTED YOU
COULD MAKE IT TONIGHT.
IT WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN
THE SAME WITHOUT YOU...
WITHOUT *ALL* OF YOU,
OF COURSE.

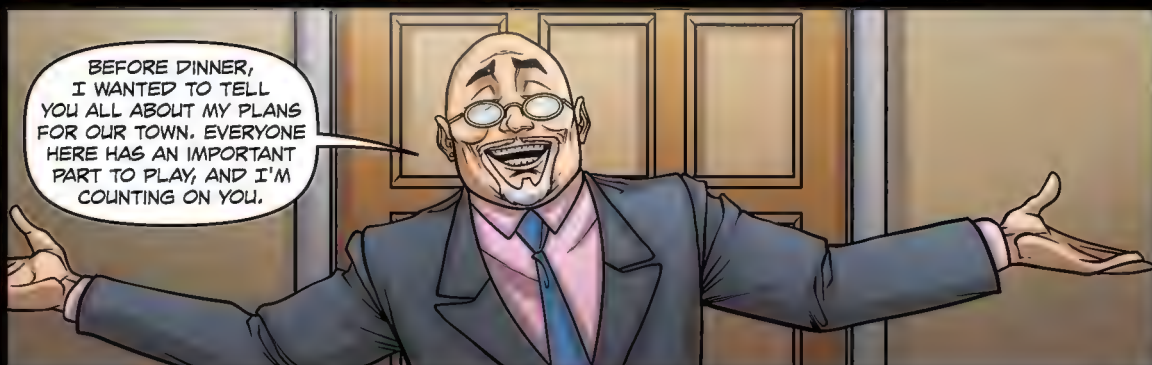


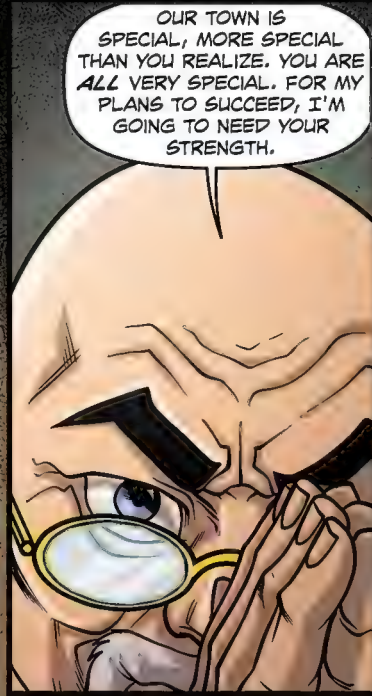
WE'RE
HONORED.
IS IT ONLY THE
FIVE OF US? I
THOUGHT--

A FEW
CANCELLED AT
THE LAST MINUTE,
REGRETTABLE, BUT
MORE DESSERT
FOR US!

GRACE! IT'S
TRULY A PLEASURE
TO SEE YOU AGAIN.

THANK YOU,
MAYOR ALDERMAN.
YOU HAVE A *VERY*
NICE HOME.





CONTINUED...

CHAPTER 6





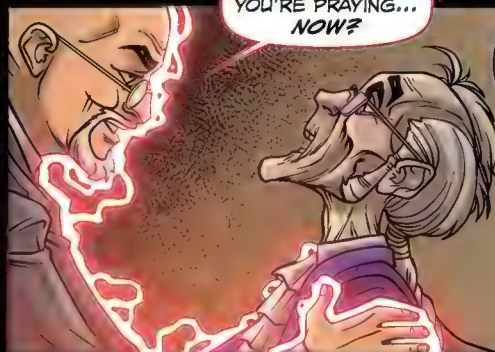


I'M SO TIRED
OF HIDING... ONLY
TAKING *LITTLE SIPS*.
HE'S *DELICIOUS*! I
THINK I'LL DRINK THE
WHOLE THING.

DON'T WORRY,
HARMONY! YOU
WON'T BE GRIEVING
FOR LONG!



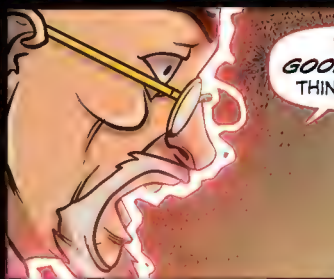
IN MY DISTRESS
I CALLED UPON THE *LORD*,
AND CRIED TO MY GOD: AND
HE DID HEAR MY VOICE OUT
OF HIS TEMPLE...



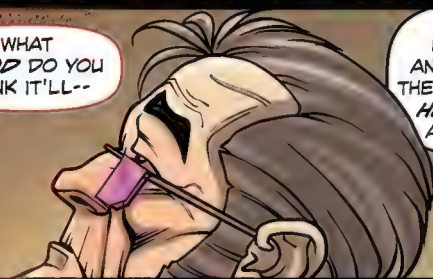
SERIOUSLY?
YOU'RE PRAYING...
NOW?



...AND MY CRY
DID ENTER INTO
HIS EARS.



WHAT
GOOD DO YOU
THINK IT'LL--



THEN THE
EARTH SHOOK
AND *TREMLED*;
THE FOUNDATIONS OF
HEAVEN MOVED
AND *SHOOK*...



DO...
ARRRGH!

...BECAUSE
HE WAS
WROTH.



HE'S DOWN.
GRACE, GET THE
DOOR OPEN AND
HELP THE VALENTINES
OUTSIDE. WATCH
FOR HOSTILES.

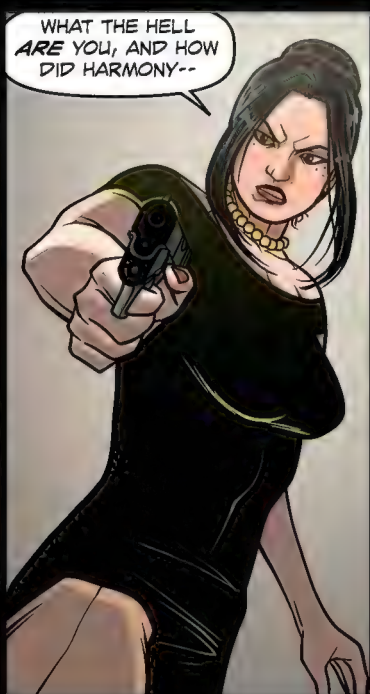


WAI--
NO...
CLEAR!



PRETTY LADY,
THINK I BETTER
GO TO BED...
SO... TIRED.

SHHHH.
QUIET,
BABE.



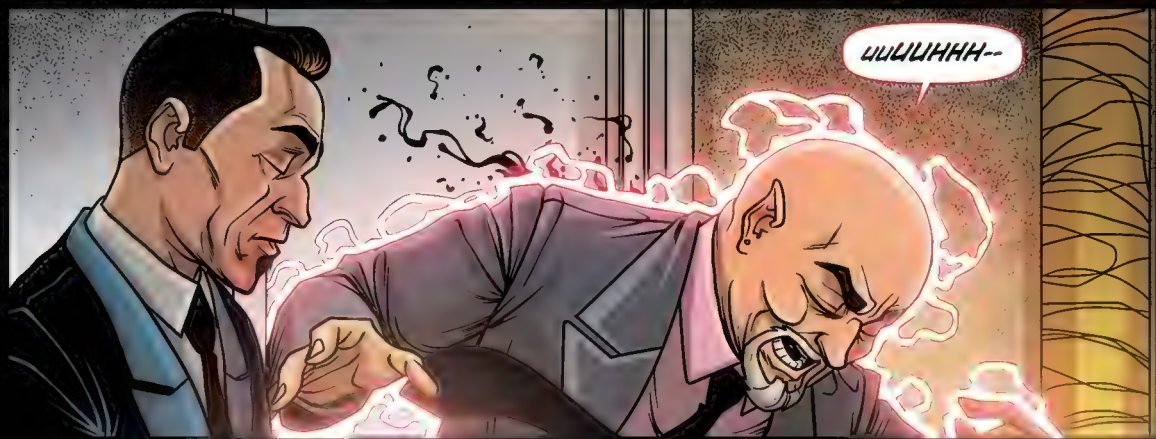
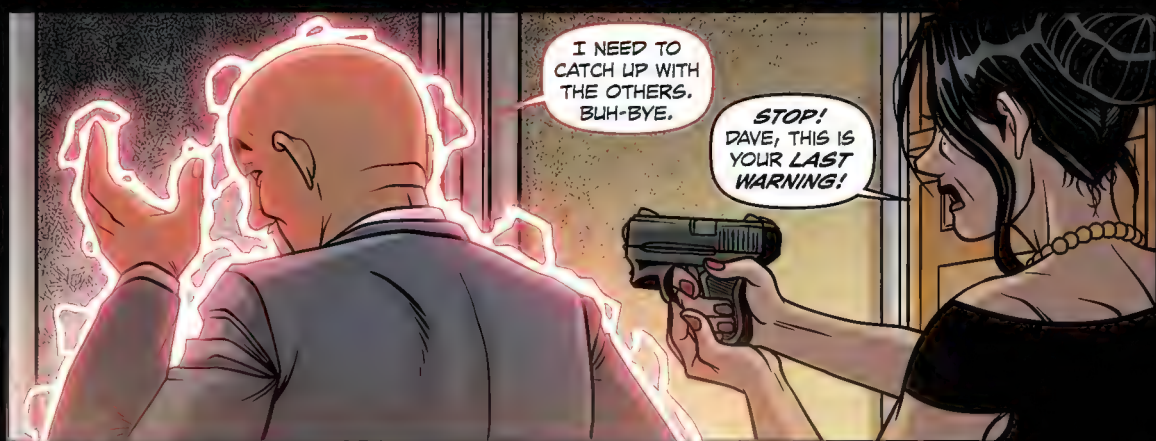
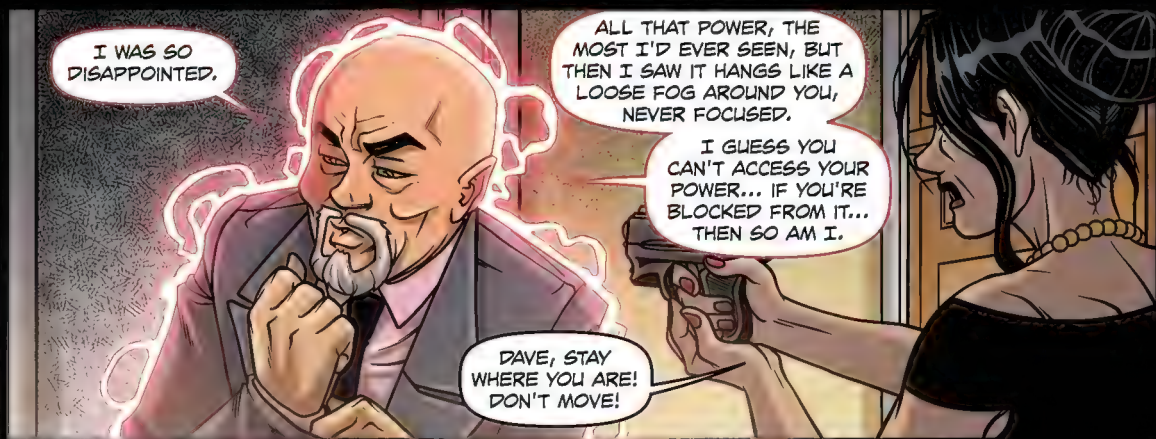
WHAT THE HELL
ARE YOU,
AND HOW
DID HARMONY--

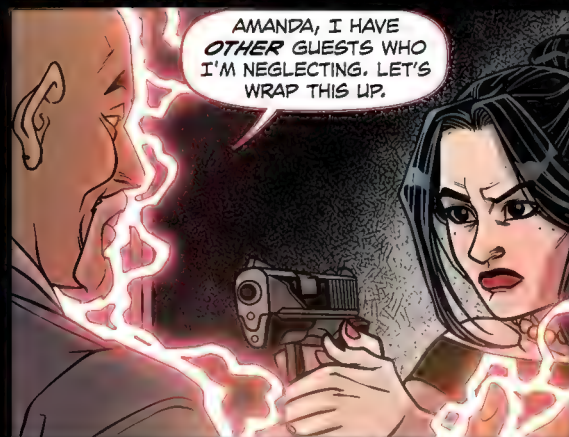
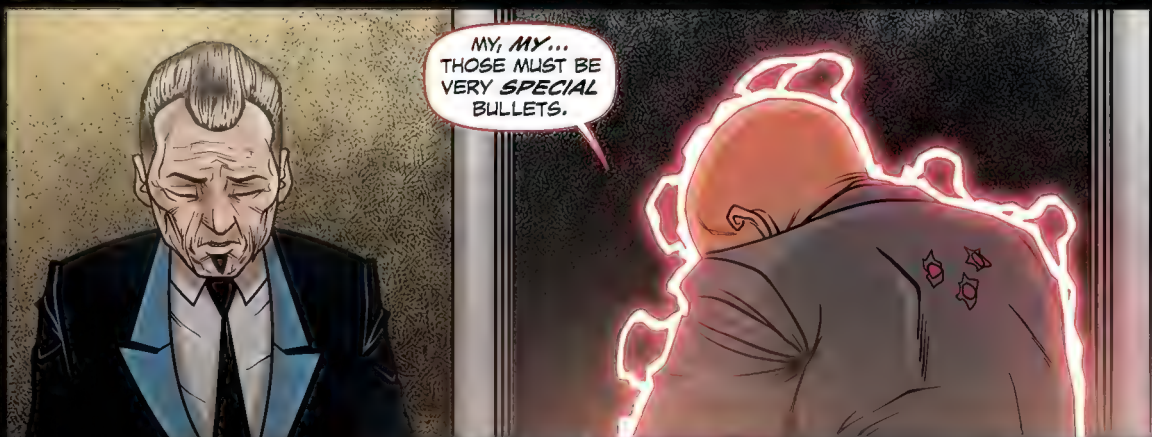


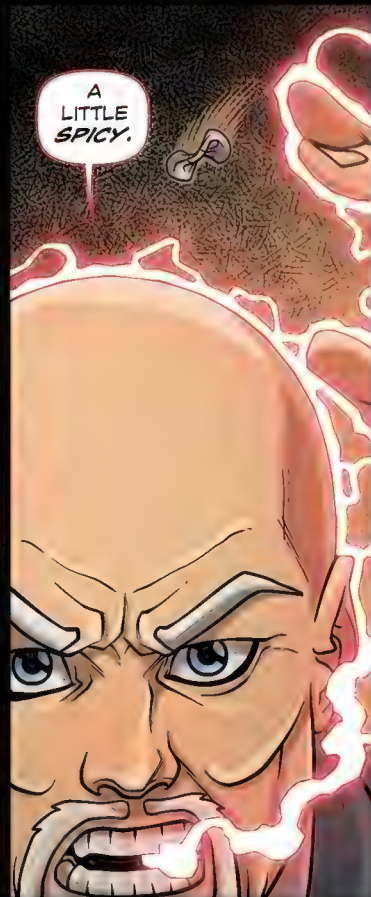
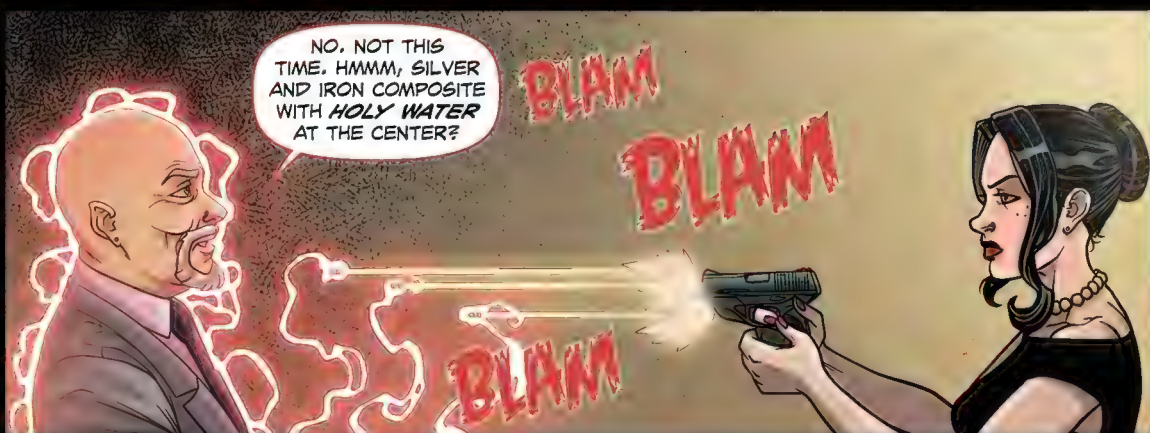
OWW! I... WAS
WONDERING... THE
SAME THING.



PUT YOUR SILLY
GUN AWAY. IT'S
NOT GOING TO DO
YOU ANY GOOD.







Without any
warning, they fell...



The innocents
keeping him well.



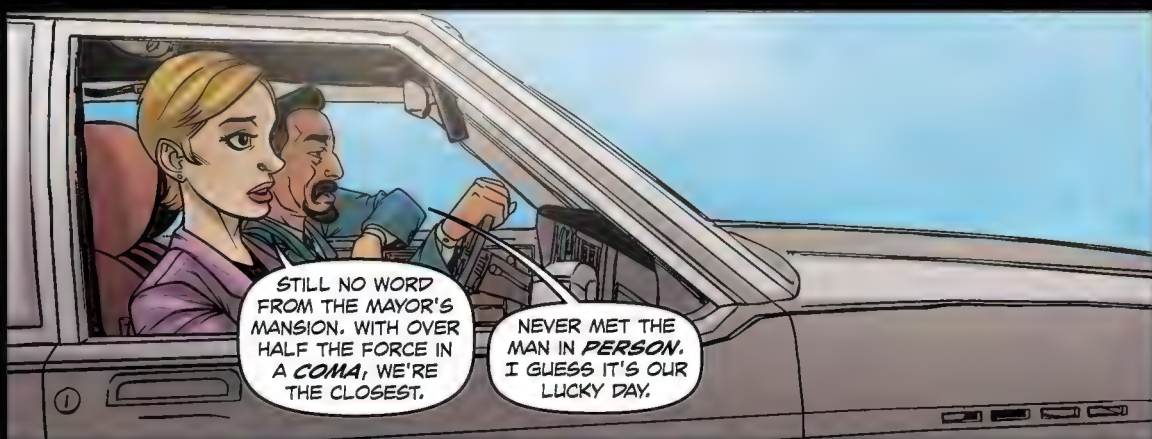
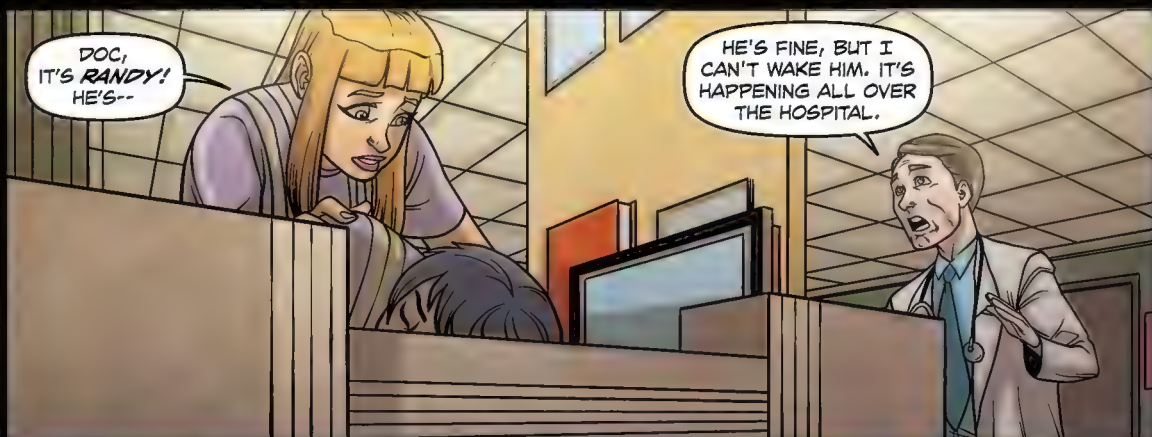
Their hands he
had clutched...



Their souls he
had touched...



Now draining
their lives through
his spell.





HOW MANY
LAYERS OF WARDS
AND MYSTICAL SEALS
ARE THERE?

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
EACH NEW ONE I FIND
IS STRONGER THAN THE
ONE BEFORE IT.



BRR-RING



HELLO?

NO, I'M IN
THE MIDDLE OF
SOMETHING.

ALL OVER TOWN?
WHAT ABOUT THE
MAYOR'S PLACE?

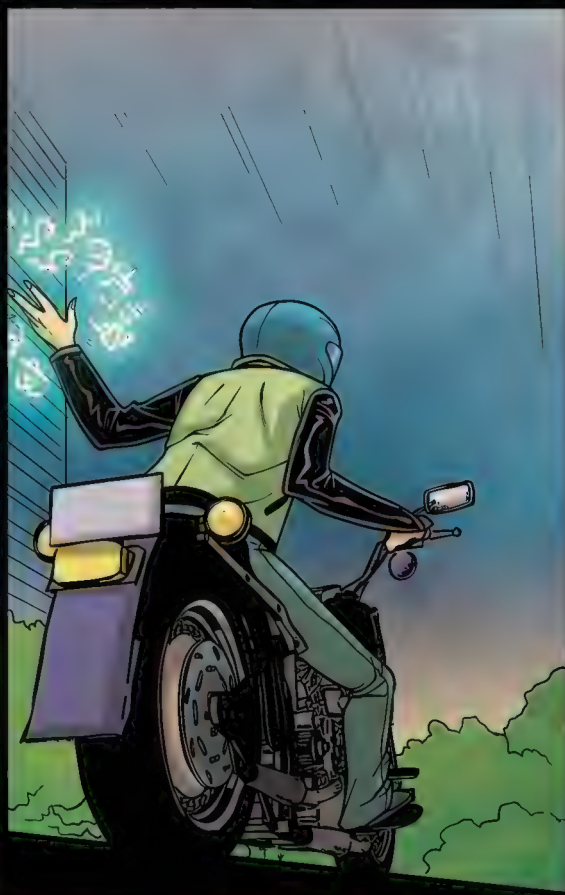
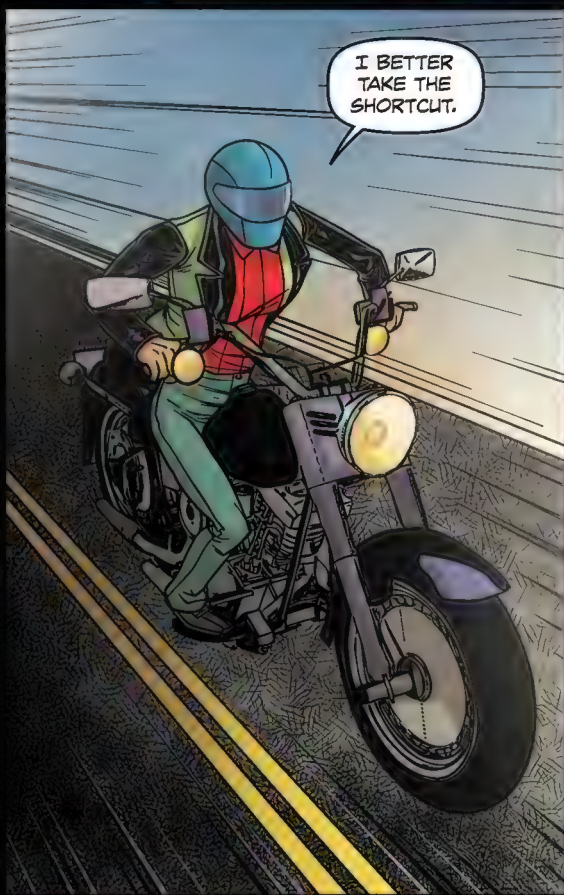
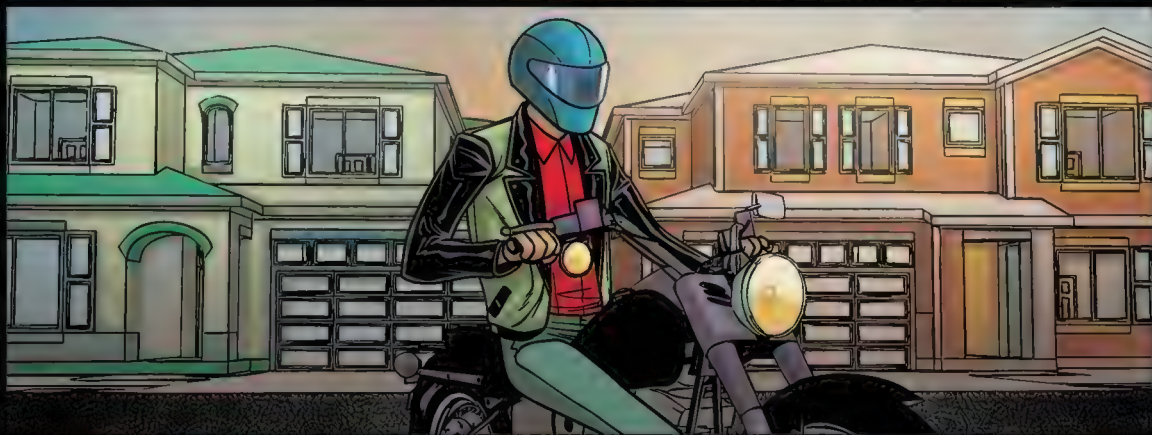
TWO
DETECTIVES
ARE CHECKING
IT OUT? OKAY,
THANKS. BYE.

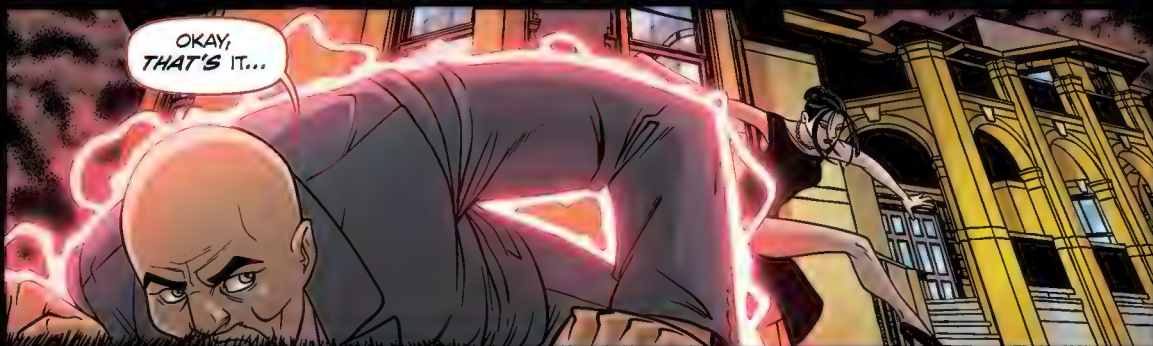


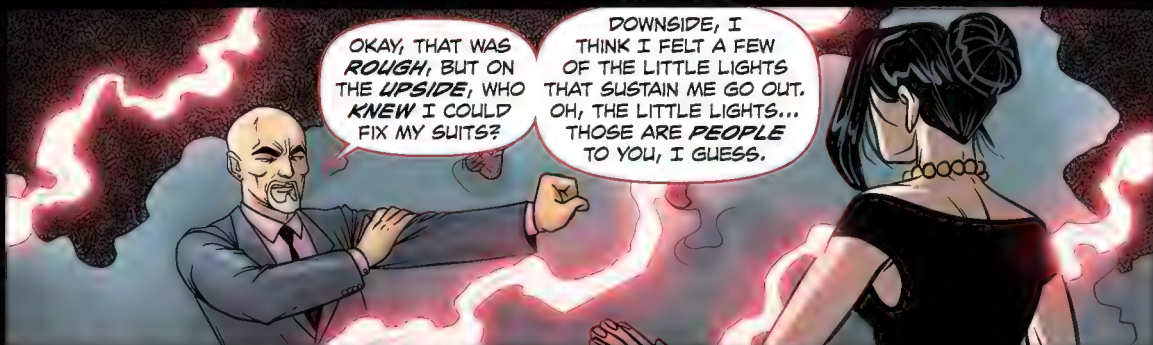
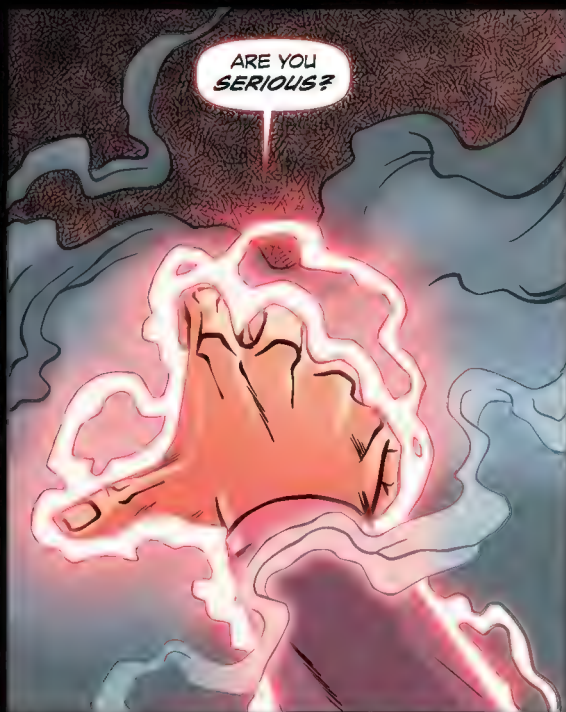
YOU.
STAY THERE.

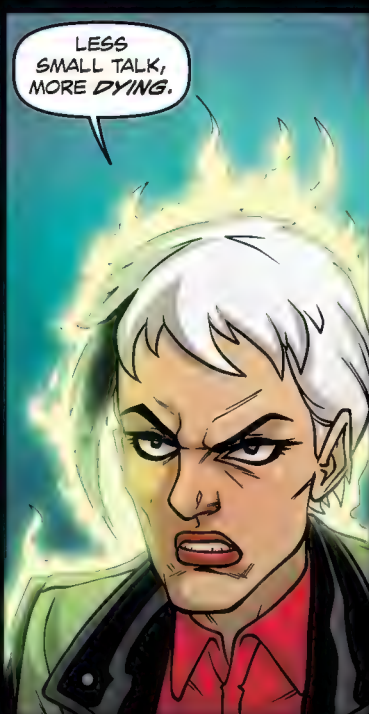


POP



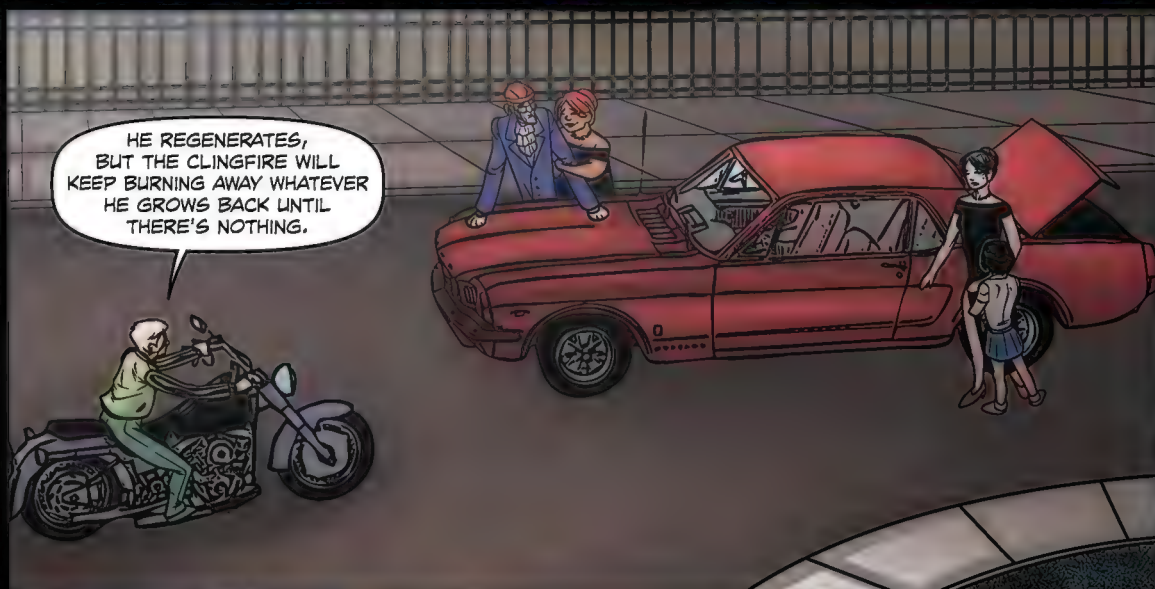












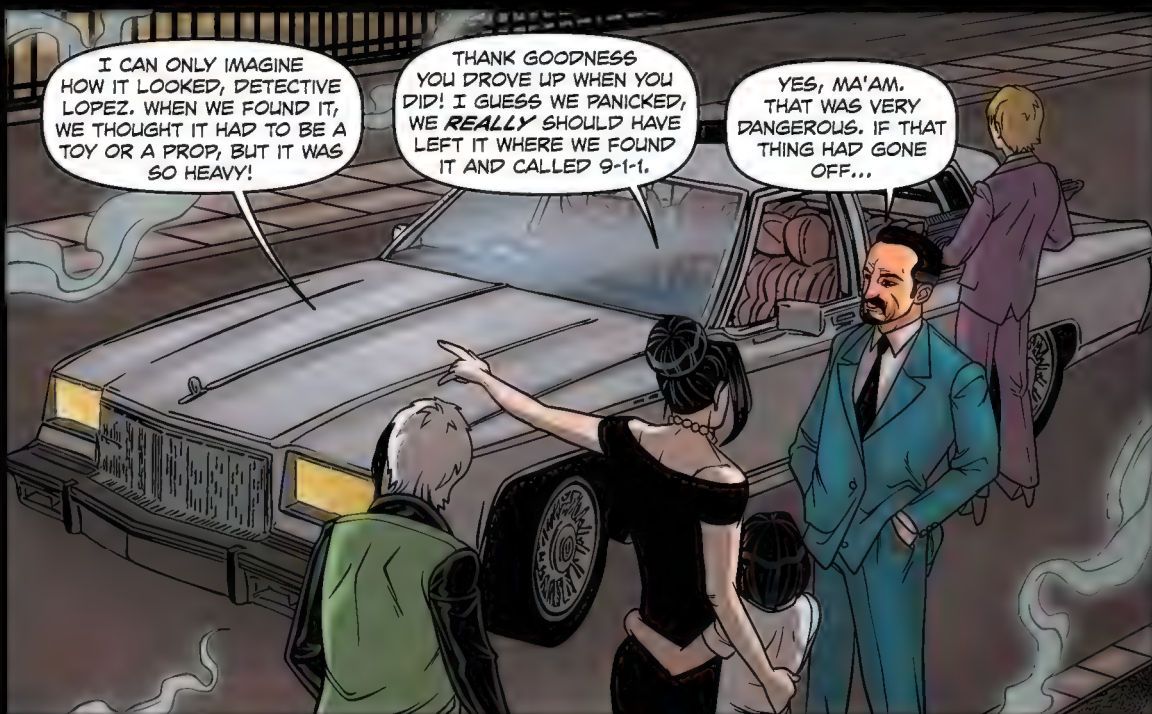
HE REGENERATES,
BUT THE CLINGFIRE WILL
KEEP BURNING AWAY WHATEVER
HE GROWS BACK UNTIL
THERE'S NOTHING.



I HOPE
IT WORKS,
BUT *JUST IN
CASE*, THIS IS
LOADED WITH
MOMMA'S
SPECIAL
RECIPE.



MISS ARROW SAYS IT
WON'T WORK. SHE CAN HELP
US A LITTLE, BUT SHE *CAN'T*
BREAK THE RULES.





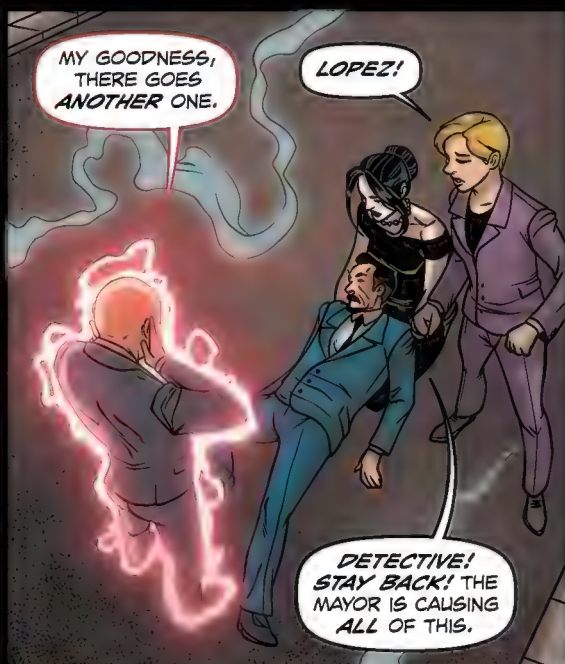
EXCELLENT
WORK,
DETECTIVE.

MR.
MAYOR!
YOU'RE
OKAY!



BETTER BE CAREFUL,
DETECTIVE. THIS ONE'S A
KILLER. YOU *WOULDN'T*
STAND A CHANCE.

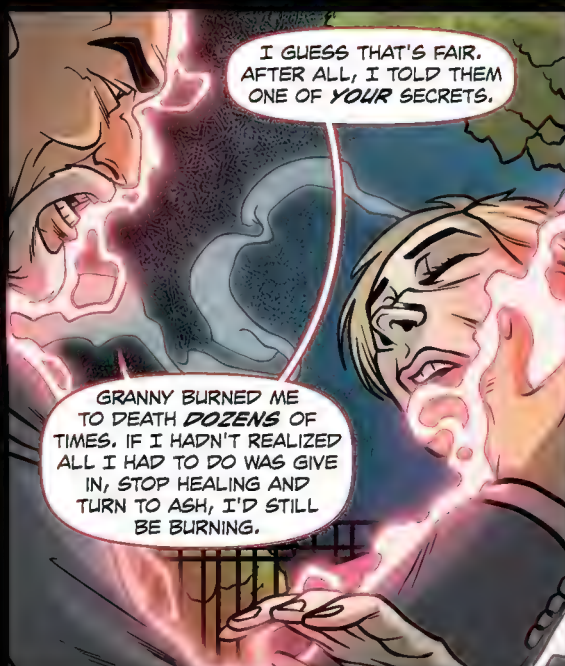
MR. MAYOR,
HUNDREDS, MAYBE
THOUSANDS ARE
UNCONSCIOUS. WE
NEED--



MY GOODNESS,
THERE GOES
ANOTHER ONE.

LOPEZ!

DETECTIVE!
STAY BACK! THE
MAYOR IS CAUSING
ALL OF THIS.

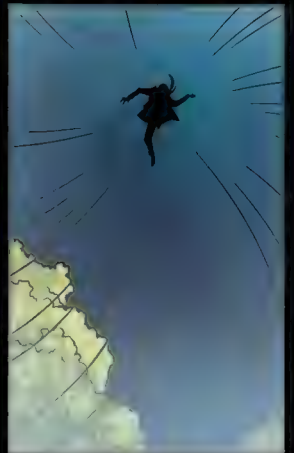
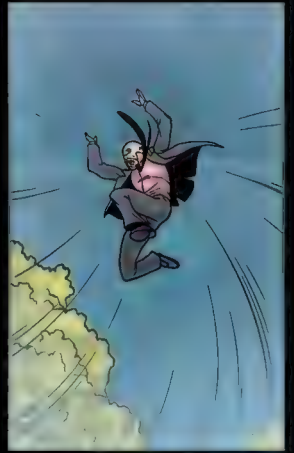


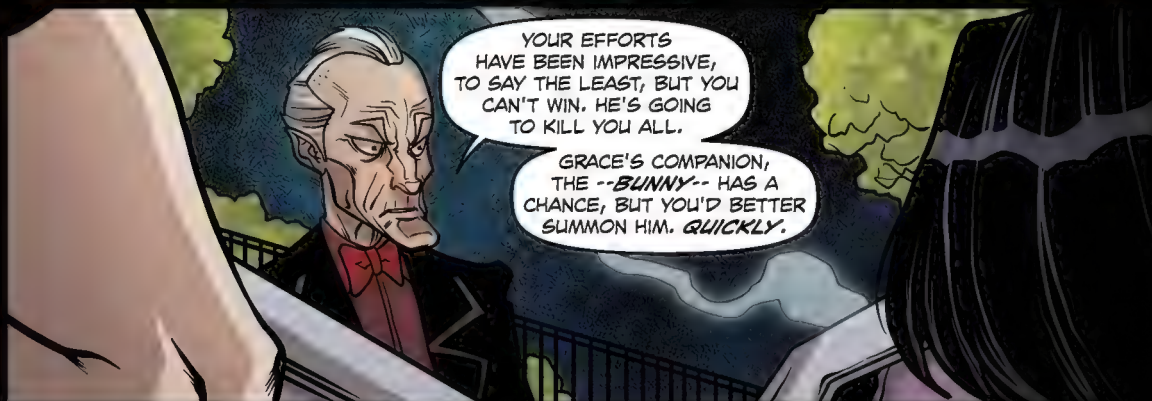
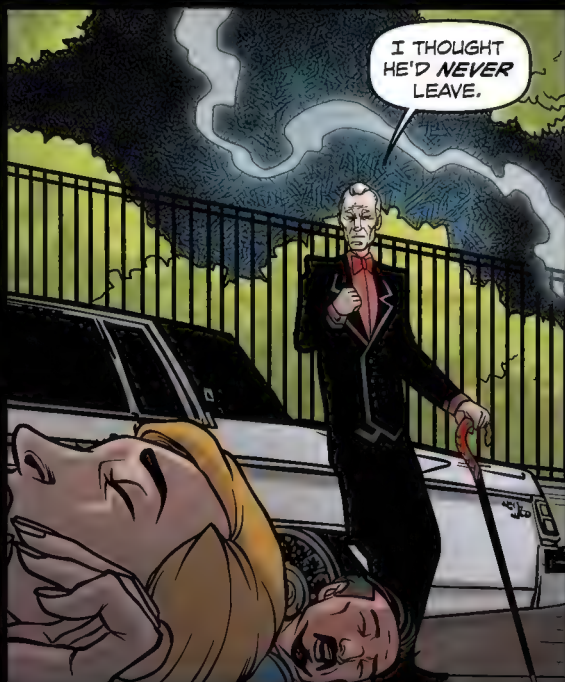
I GUESS THAT'S FAIR.
AFTER ALL, I TOLD THEM
ONE OF *YOUR* SECRETS.

GRANNY BURNED ME
TO DEATH *DOZENS* OF
TIMES. IF I HADN'T REALIZED
ALL I HAD TO DO WAS GIVE
IN, STOP HEALING AND
TURN TO ASH, I'D STILL
BE BURNING.



MISS ARROW, YOU
WERE RIGHT. CAN YOU
HELP US, PLEASE?



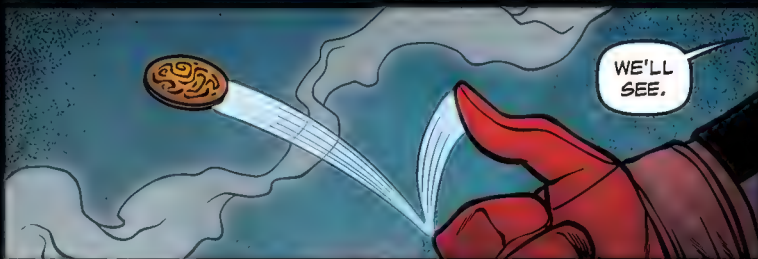




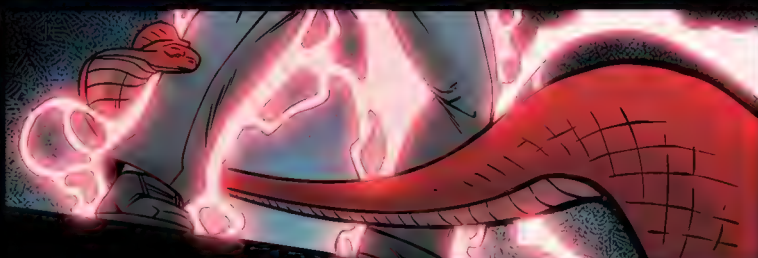
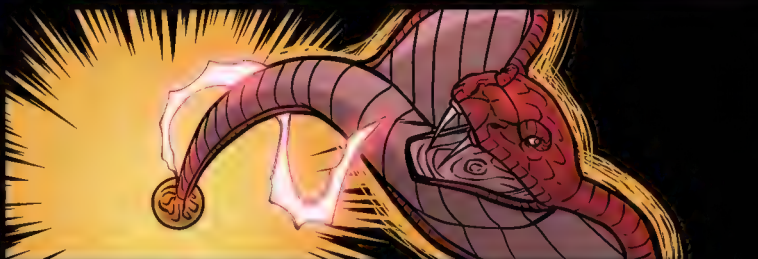
I KNOW I'VE
BEEN A BAD BOY,
BUT I JUST COULDN'T
WAIT THREE MORE
MONTHS.

SO YOU HELPED
YOURSELF TO MY
POWER AS WELL?

BETTER SAFE
THAN SORRY...
SORRY.



WE'LL
SEE.



BUT
WE'RE ON THE
SAME--



NNNNNEFF





Still trapped in
his sinewy cage



But soon a new
battle would rage



A mother
contrives



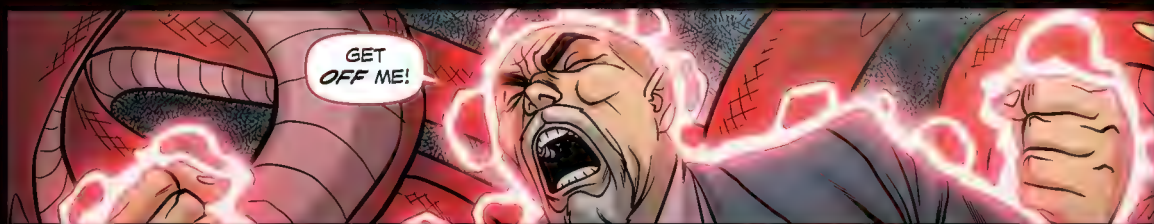
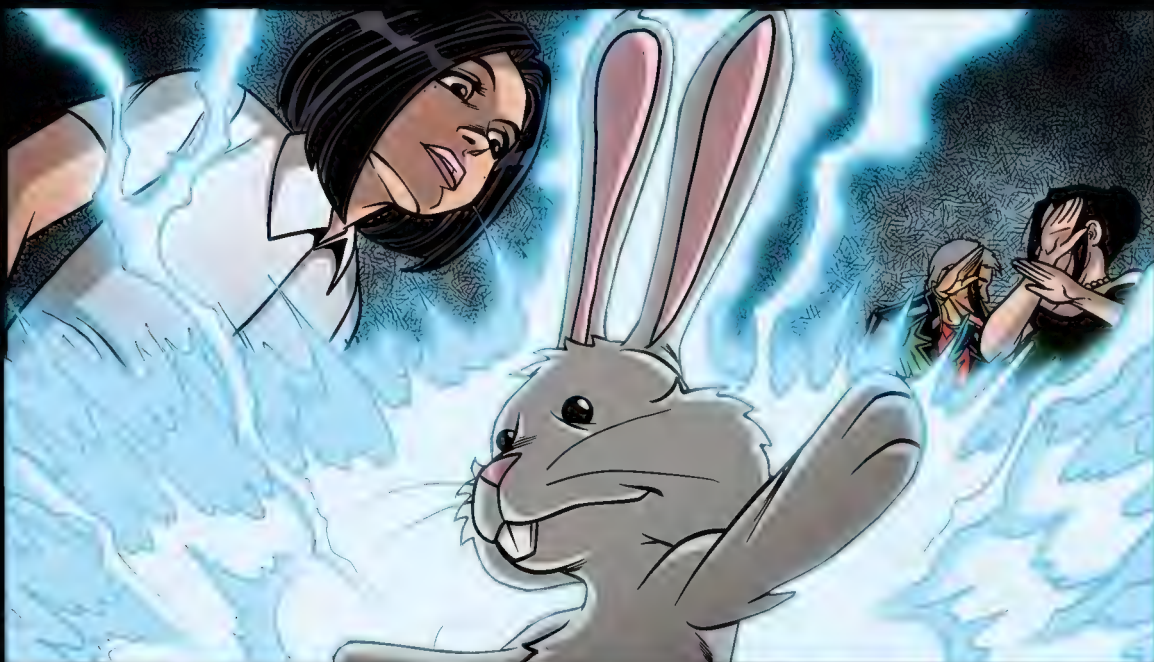
To keep
them alive



The hero
must now take
the stage.



STABBITY!





I CAN'T TELL
YOU HOW MUCH I'VE
LOOKED *FORWARD*
TO TH--



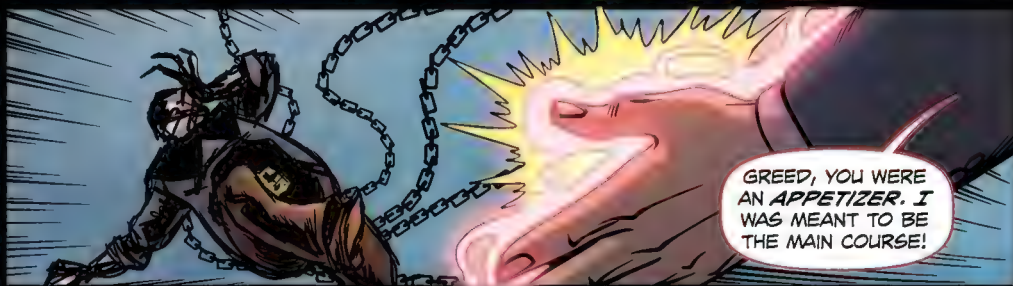
FOR ME?!
YOU SHOULDN'T
HAVE...



OH.
IT'S
YOU.



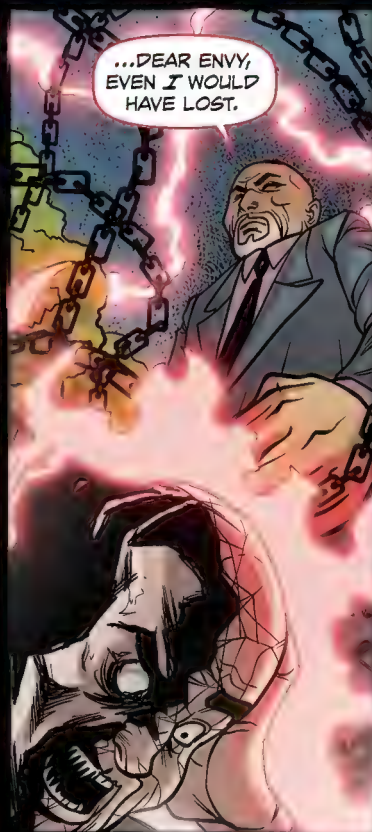
MY FALLEN BROTHERS
AND SISTER. YOU WERE
WEAK. THAT'S WHY YOU
FOUGHT THEM FIRST.



GREED, YOU WERE
AN **APPETIZER**. I
WAS MEANT TO BE
THE MAIN COURSE!



IF I
HAD BEEN STUPID,
DONE AS **FATHER**
WANTED AND WAITED
MY TURN...



...DEAR ENVY,
EVEN I WOULD
HAVE LOST.



BUT TIMING
IS EVERYTHI--



NNNNNGGGG



YOUR
PROBLEM
IS--



--YOU
WANTED IT
ALL!



I'D HATE
TO BE *YOU*
RIGHT NOW.



I'VE JUST TAKEN
THE REST OF IT! EVERY
PERSON I'VE TOUCHED,
WHATEVER THEY HAD
LEFT, IT'S ALL MINE NOW.
WITH THAT POWER--



WITH THAT
POWER, I'D
SAY, DINNER
IS SERVED!



OH,
MY GOD.



I DIDN'T
MEAN TO
OFFEND.



PLEASE! LET
ME EXPLAIN.

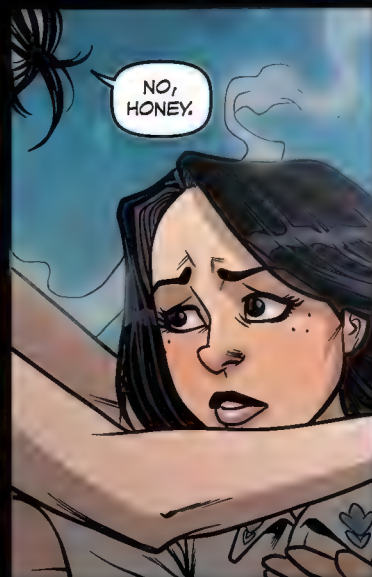


I...
I...



HERO

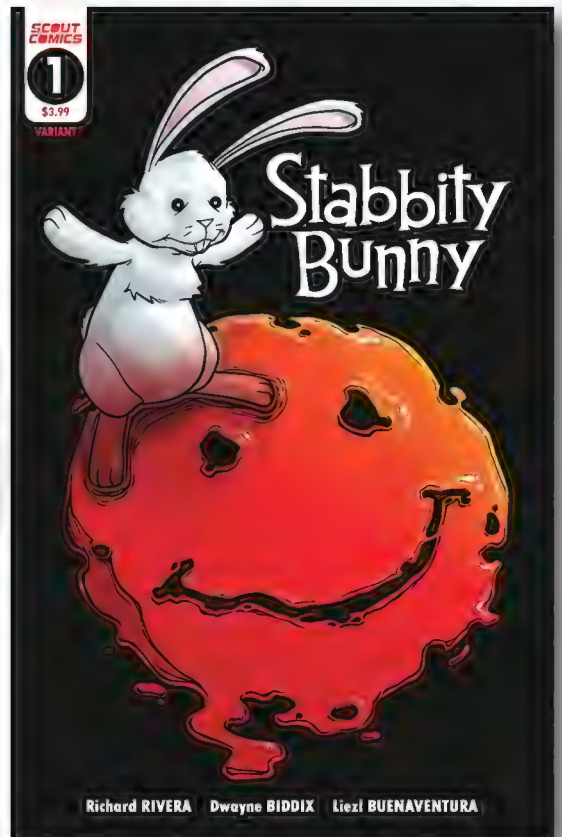
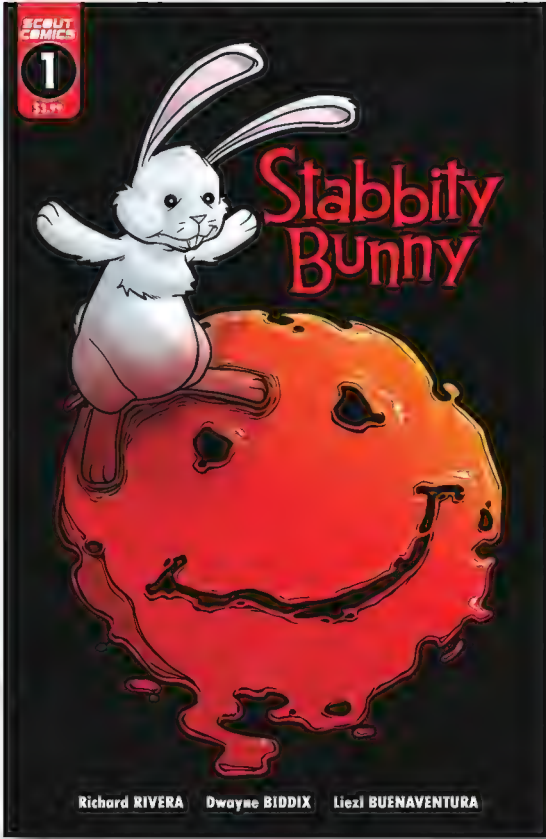


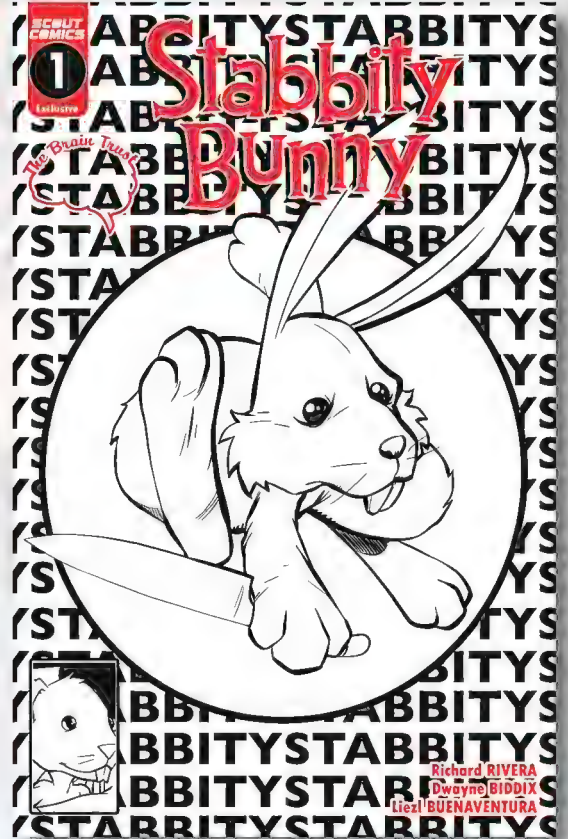
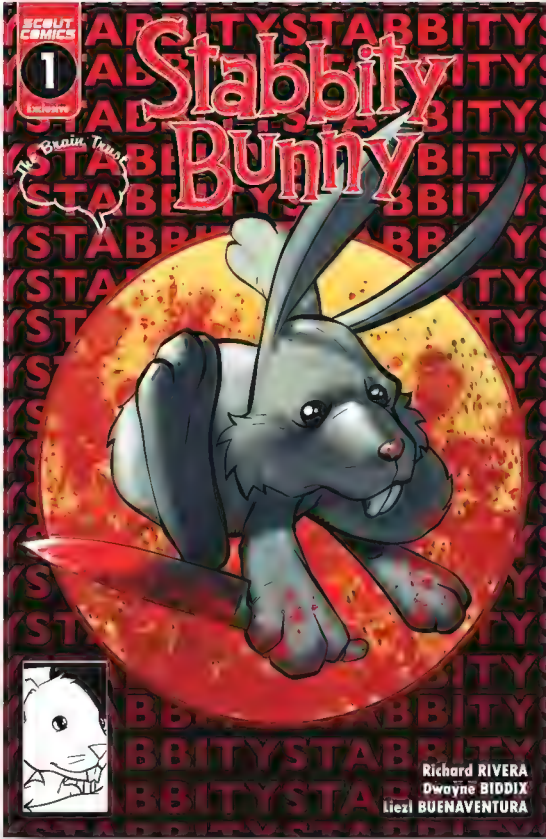


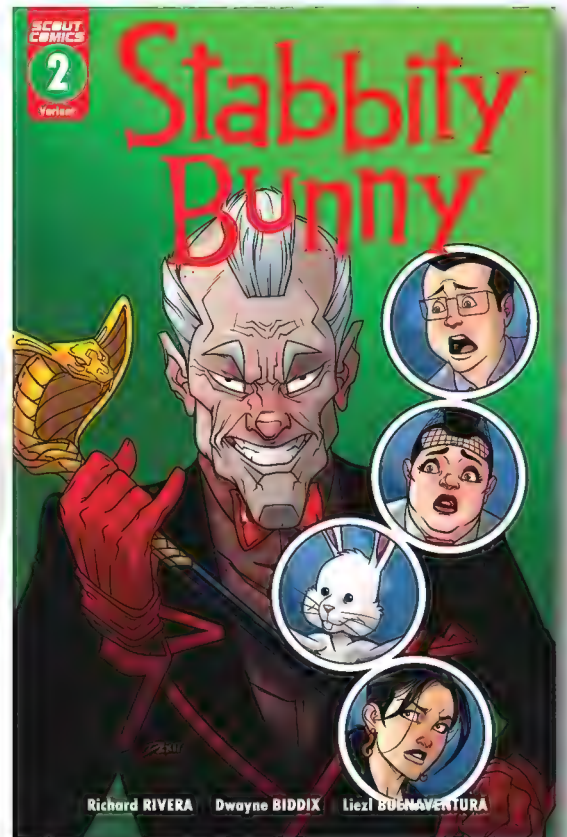
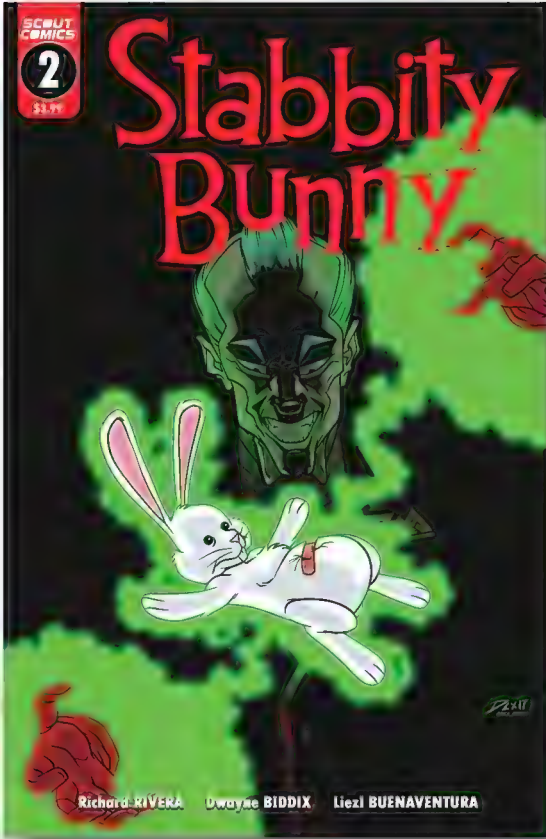
END

Stabbity Bunny

COVER GALLERY







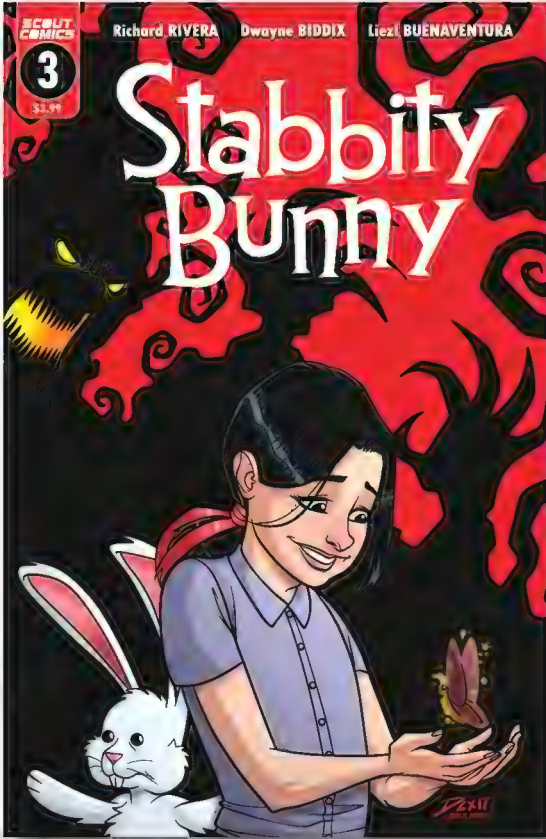


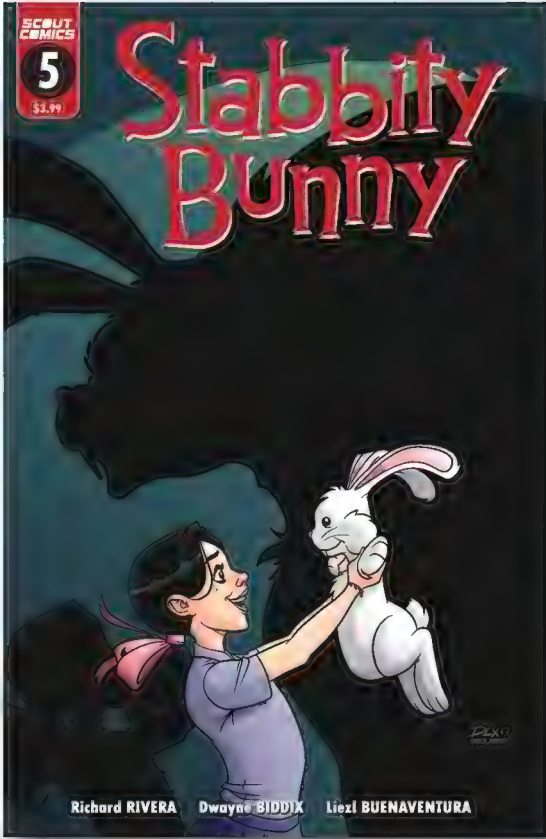


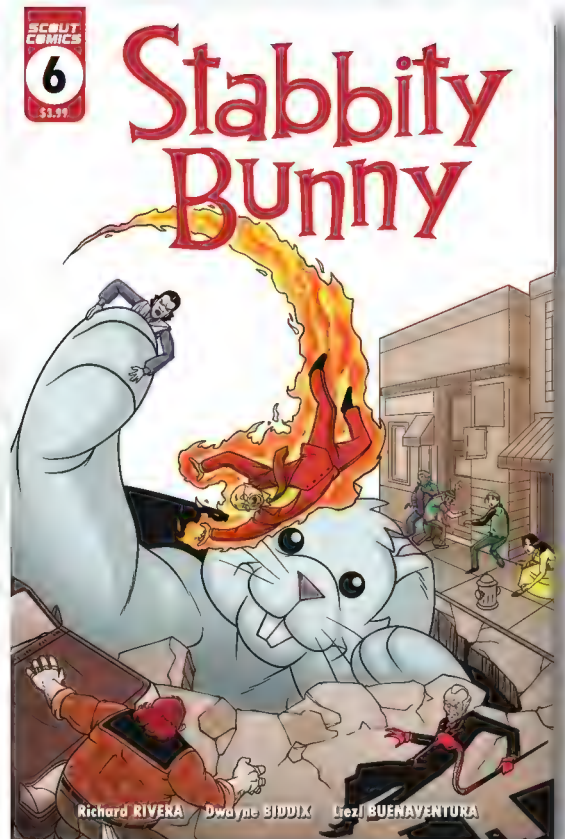
RICHARD RIVERA'S

STABBITY BUNNY









SCOUT
COMICS
6
EXCLUSIVE

Stabbity Bunny



Stabbity Bunny

CREATIVE TEAM

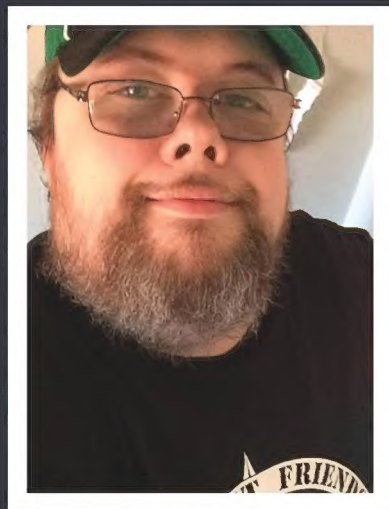
Richard Rivera
Writer



Richard Rivera has loved comic books his entire life. Transforming any school project, where the teacher would allow it, into a comic format he began making comics in middle school. Reading comics, writing comics and collecting comics were his passions. Creating, boxing and putting aside series treatments for decades Richard finally decided to self-publish in 2014. Bringing a team together, Dwayne Biddix, artist, Liezl Buenaventura, Colorist and Jaymes Reed, letterer, he decided to produce Stabbity Bunny. The first issue premiered in 2015 and in 2017 a hardback collecting issues one through six was published. Scout Comics added the comic to their lineup and in January 2018 issue one was released in comic stores.

Dwayne Biddix
Artist

Dwayne Biddix has always known he wanted to be an artist, drawing enthusiastically since the age of five. While in high school, he discovered comics, and began to see art as a viable career path. He and his cousin began creating their own comics with a copier and selling them to their fellow students. Over the years, they created many comics, including a 2007 independent comic of the year, Morbid Myths. Richard Rivera contacted Dwayne in 2014 with a new project, Stabbity Bunny. Stabbity became Scout Comics' best selling book, and Dwayne remains the artist and visual designer for the series.



DR. VINK

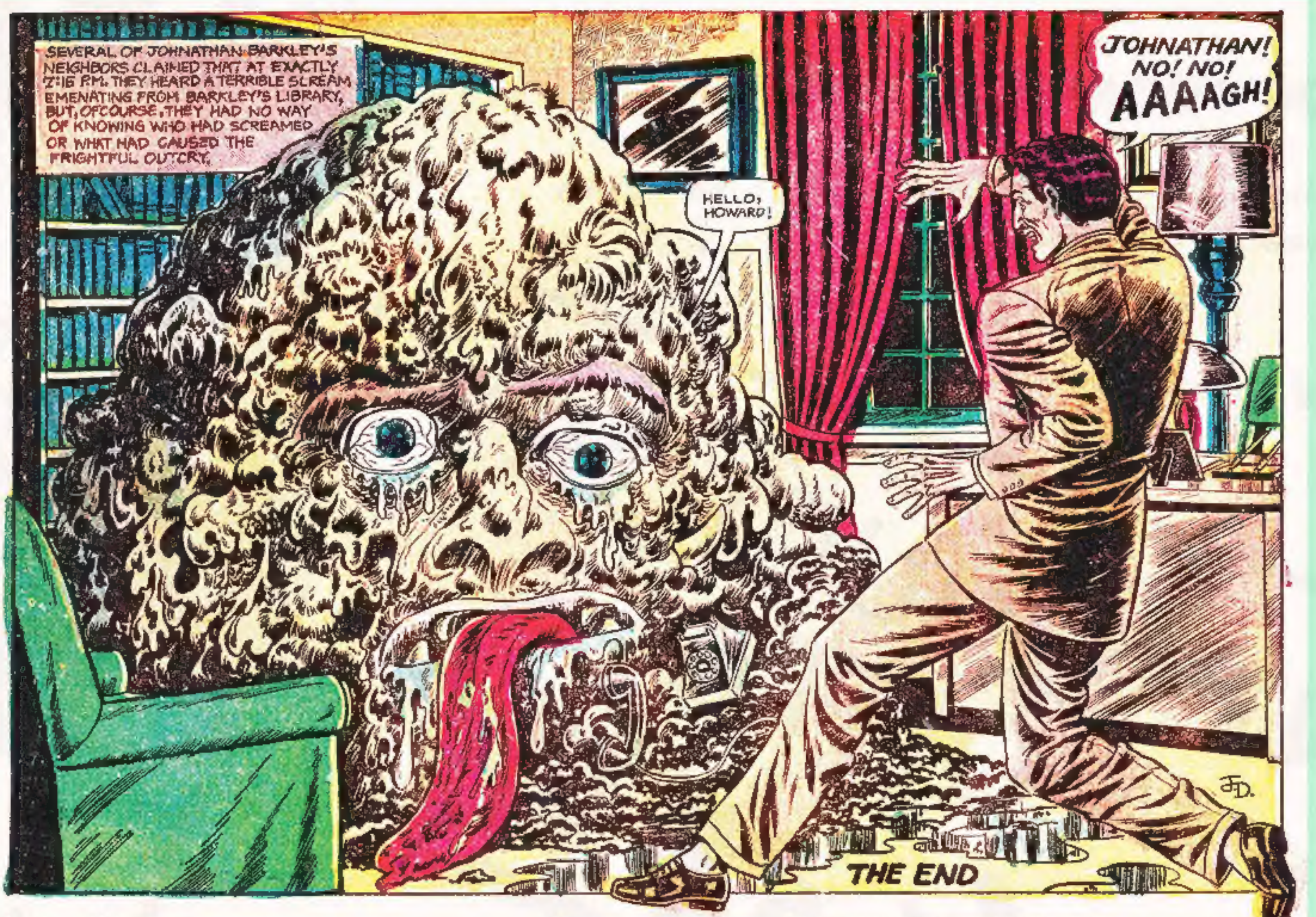
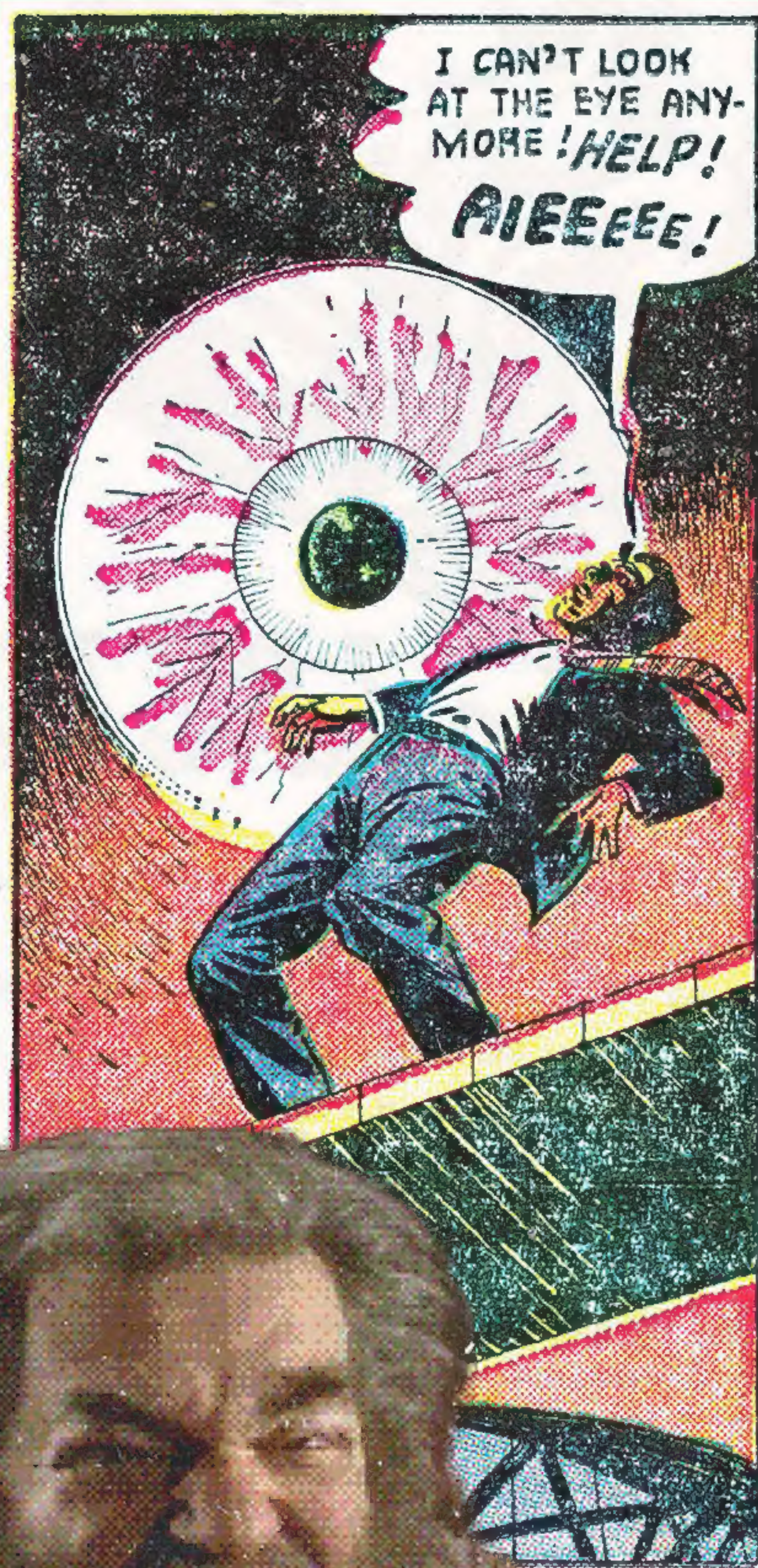
WITH A VA-VA-VA

A DR. VINK POOR MAN'S RIP

- RIPPIN POORLY SINCE MAY 2022 -

LIBRARY LOANS THROUGH HOOPLA + OVERDRIVE
COMIXOLOGY / AMAZON PRIME READING + KINDLE

RIPPED WITH CALIBRE DEDRM AND AI UPSCALED WITH WAIFU2X-CAFFE



...AND I AM NOT A NUT BAG



DIGITAL COMICS PRESERVATION

RIPPING
SCANNING
ARCHIVING COMICS



IF YOU LIKE IT
AND HAVE THE MEANS TO DO SO
PURCHASE A PHYSICAL COPY
HELP YOUR LOCAL COMIC BOOK SHOPS!

READ MORE COMICS